JOB Market

NEWS / A2

Leftists translate Cuban Fidel Castro's five-hour speech 'History will Absolve Me' into Tagalog with Satur Ocampo as editor

NEWS / A2

GMA signs RA 9346 abolishing the death penalty; intends to present it to Pope Benedict XVI as part of her one-week swing through Europe

OPINION / A13

Rina David: The public has every right to know the President's state of health. Still, her hospital stay is as good a reason as any to explore the issue of medical confidentiality

'Fr. Riles' dreams with poor, refuses to wake up

By Christian V. Esguerra

THE QUIET, BESPECTACLED MAN GARBED IN CAsual shirt and slacks stood out in the company of government officials attired in dark suits and *barong* Tagalogs.

Some of the executives looked him over from head to toe, but Fr. Atilano "Nonong" Fajardo merely gave them a reassuring smile.

FR. RILES/ A8

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

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They just want to see the Pope at the Vatican

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

ANG DAMI KONG BLESSED NA KASAMA!

FOR A CHANCE TO MEET the Holy Father, some congressmen and their spouses have insisted on joining President Macapagal-Arroyo in her

THEY JUST/ A8

PNP on nationwide alert

GMA leaves St. Luke's, departs for Europe today

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. and Fe Zamora

WITH THE COUNTRY'S 115,000 policemen on nationwide alert, President Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday checked out of the hospital to prepare for her 32nd foreign trip to be crowned by a private audience with Pope Benedict XVI at the Vatican.

The full alert went into effect at 8 a.m. yesterday and will last until Ms Arroyo returns on July 2 from her trip to Italy, Vatican City and Spain, Philippine National Police spokesperson Senior Supt. Samuel Pagdilao said.

She is scheduled to leave for Rome at 10 a.m. today.

"The full alert is police standard operating procedure whenever the President is abroad. It is not related to any threat," Pagdilao told the INQUIRER.

The police and the presidential guards have been intermittently on heightened alert in recent days for reasons ranging from alleged threats from Islamic rebels to sow terror in the metropolis, to Ms Arroyo being rushed to St. Luke's Medical Center for an upset stomach ascribed by doctors to a viral infection.

On Wednesday, as part of the earlier midweek security alert, the police set up 15 checkpoints around the capital and deployed over 20,000 policemen to thwart any terrorist attacks on shopping malls and public transport systems.

National Capital Region police chief Director Vidal Querol said the police were responding to "consistent" intelligence reports that extremist groups planned to spread terror in the metropolis.

Presidential Security Group chief Brig. Gen. Delfin Bangit also disclosed during the week a supposed plot by a

PNP/ A8

EDWIN BACASMAS

ALL THIS, AND FAULT-LESS, TOO: When geologists say there's no place in the country like Palawan, they mean the gorgeous beaches and the lush forests and mangroves like this one in Barangay Bancao-Bancao in the capital city of Puerto Princesa. But more so, being men of science, they mean Palawan rests on a stable belt where earthquakes have not occurred the past 10,000 years.

NO VOLCANOES, QUAKES

Palawan: RP's safest province

By Blanche S. Rivera

WHEN GEOLOGISTS SAY THERE IS NO place in the Philippines like Palawan, they are not talking about its gorgeous beaches and rich forests.

It is the only province in the country that lies on a stable belt, where faults are mostly inactive or have not caused earthquakes in more than 10,000 years, according to the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs).

Nestled between the islands of Mindoro and Borneo, Palawan is almost fault-less—fault referring to breaks or zones of weakness in rocks along which displacements had occurred or can occur again.

While the rest of the country experiences 20 to 25 earthquakes a day or up to 9,125 earthquakes a year, Palawan rests safely on its white sand shores, with perhaps the only distractive motion coming from the waves of its turquoise seas.

"It's actually the most ideal place to build high-rise structures, not Manila," Phivolcs deputy director Bart Bautista told the INQUIRER in an interview.

"When people ask us about what design is appropriate in Palawan, we tell them they can build following any design because the ground in Palawan is stable; it's even a good place to build nuclear plants if they want," seismology chief Ishmael Narag added.

Narag said earthquakes in Palawan were "possible but not likely" considering its history.

Located approximately 240 km southwest of Manila, Palawan is known as the Philippines' last ecological frontier, its thick forests being home to 232 wildlife species.

Palawan has a total land area of 1.48 million hectares and is composed of 1,780 islands and islets, with about 12,000 km of irregular coastline that are rich fishing areas.

The province has been spared from earthquakes for more than 10,000 years.

The last earthquake-related disaster that hit Palawan was a tsunami in 1897, landing on Palawan's southern shores with 10-meter high waves. The

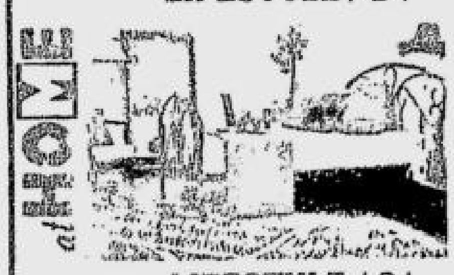
PALAWAN/ A4

PDI Man in Hollywood says Woody Allen obsessing over Scarlett Johansson. He made his latest film 'Scoop' simply for the pleasure of working with Scarlett

ENTERTAINMENT / A4

Monique Lhuillier dresses up Bride Barbie, becoming one of the international designers who created one-of-a-kind fashion for every girl's favorite doll.

LIFESTYLE / D1



LIFESTYLE / C1

TV legend Aaron Spelling, who launched, produced star-making global hits such as 'Dynasty' and 'Charlie's Angels' dies of cancer in Los Angeles. He was 83.

WORLD / A23

GOODBYE TO DEATH PENALTY

Maggie: There's no escaping law of karma

By Jerry E. Esplanada

AS PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO expunged the death penalty from the statute books yesterday, one woman whose rape sent four young men to the electric chair says it is but natural for people sometimes to pay with their lives for the wrongs they commit.

That is karma, says Maggie de la Riva.

In June 1967, the then 25-year-old movie actress was abducted from her car by four men and taken to Swanky Hotel in Pasay City, where they took turns raping her.

After four years of investigation and trial, the Supreme Court affirmed the death penalty imposed on Jaime Jose, Basilio Pineda Jr., Edgardo Aquino and Rogelio Canal for the crime of forcible abduction with rape. They burned in 1972.

Reached by phone hours after Ms Arroyo signed the bill abolishing capital punishment, De la Riva said: "I have grown with the times...I am not for or against the death penalty per se."

"As far as I am concerned, the death penalty is a natural consequence of the violation of the natural law, which is karma. Some people deserve the death penalty but some don't."

De la Riva said rape victims should not look at the death penalty "as a source of revenge."

"If some rape victims are capable of rehabilitation and are repentant, why push for the death penalty. It's a case to case thing."

Abolishing the death penalty is "not a yes or no thing," she said, adding: "There are also many gray areas."

"Five years ago, I would have said if someone is convicted and sentenced, so be it," De la Riva said. "Today, I say even as he is convicted, if there is a shred of remorse in him, if he can still be rehabilitated, let's give him a second chance."

In an interview with the INQUIRER last week, De la Riva said the execution of the four men convicted of raping her in 1967 "signified a closed chapter of horror in my life." She called it the "triumph of justice and the outworking of karma in the life of the guilty."

Without referring to the ongoing "Nicole" rape trial, De la Riva said that "one of the consequences of filing a case in court is losing your privacy. But that's for a greater cause—seeking justice, that is."

"I didn't go through all that drama of hiding my identity. It never entered my mind to go camouflaged. Why? I was fighting for my rights... So why should I hide my face?"

De la Riva spoke of the death penalty as a deterrent to crime in an interview with the INQUIRER in 1999 amid the public uproar over the rape of a young girl by her stepfather, Leo Echegaray.

In that article, she had asserted: "Many say that capital punishment is not a deterrent to crime, but I beg to disagree. It is still the greatest deterrent, as was proven by the execution of my assailants in 1972, where for the next five

MAGGIE/ A8

MAGGIE TODAY: I was defiled but there's another person in me that's beautiful, strong and true.

RUMY HOMILLADA

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2006

E-mail: pr_news@inquirer.com.ph

Second FRONTPAGE

Text us your feedback: inquirer news name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Bicol region and Eastern Visayas will have rains. Rest of Southern Luzon, rest of Visayas and Mindanao will be cloudy with rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of Luzon will have partly cloudy to cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms.

COMPILED BY MEL DE GUZMAN, PDI RESEARCH/06/24/06 SOURCE PAGASA

Metro Manila	Cloudy with Rains	Iloilo/Bacolod	Thunderstorms
Baguio	Cloudy with Rains	Roxas	Cloudy with Rains
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	Cebu	Thunderstorms
Laoag	Cloudy with Rains	Tacloban	Stormy
Clark Zone	Cloudy with Rains	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Cloudy with Rains	Zamboanga	Thunderstorms
Legazpi	Stormy	Cagayan de Oro	Thunderstorms
Calapan	Cloudy with Rains	Davao	Thunderstorms

GMA kills death penalty law

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr. and TJ Burgonio

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO YESTERDAY signed a law abolishing the death penalty which she intends to present to Pope Benedict XVI during her visit to the Vatican next week.

But she also vowed an unrelenting campaign against terrorists and criminals.

"When I meet the Holy Father soon in the Vatican, I shall tell him that we have acted in the name of life for a world of peace and harmony," said the President in a speech shortly after signing Republic Act No. 9346 at the Malacañang ceremonial hall.

The President will have a private audience with the Pope on June 26.

Papal nuncio Archbishop Fernando Filoni described the signing as "a very important day" 12 years after Congress approved a bill allowing lethal injections for individuals found guilty of heinous crimes.

Filoni led the list of top Cabinet officials, senators, congressmen, Church leaders and nongovernmental organization leaders who graced the event.

The abolition of the death penalty has been criticized by families of the victims of heinous crimes who had gone through the justice system to seek justice for their lost loved ones.

"I allay the concerns of those who think the abolition of the death penalty opens the flood gate of heinous acts," the President said.

"We shall continue to devote the increasing weight of our resources to the prevention and control of serious crimes rather than take the lives of those who commit them," said Ms Arroyo, in justifying her decision to do away with the maximum penalty.

Cited for swift action

The President called on law enforcers, prosecutors, judges, jailers and the whole community "to take stock of the responsibility of sharpening the law and justice for all."

"We have taken a strong hand against the threats to the law and the Republic, but at the same time we yield to the high moral imperatives dictated by God to walk away from capital punishment," the President said.

The President likewise praised the two chambers of Congress for the swift passage of RA 9346 which was triggered by her Easter Sunday message to grant a blanket commutation to death row convicts.

"I appreciate the enthusiasm of Congress in expressing the moral and spiritual force of the Filipino in this law. I thank the Church for the beacon of grace and discernment," the President said.

RA 9346 is expected to benefit 1,200 inmates on death row, including 11 al-Qaida-linked militants who faced lethal injection.

Ms Arroyo, who survived an impeachment attempt last year over persistent allegations of election cheating, had declined to authorize any executions since the start of her presidency in 2001.

Leaders of anticrime groups have complained about ending capital punishment, saying the government failed to consult them.

"If the Senate, the House and Malacañang are bombed and you have the highest officials of the land killed, I bet you they will bring back the death penalty law," said lawyer Leonard de Vera, a former president of the Integrated Bar of the Philippines.

Abolition not timely

"The abolition is not very timely because of the existence of terrorist groups, hardcore criminals, syndicates and kidnappers," said Dante Jimenez, head of Volunteers Against Crime and Corruption.

"The abolition may mean that victims of heinous crimes might take the law in their hands."

In a text message, Jimenez said that he would urge the people to arm themselves against criminals.

Sen. Panfilo Lacson said Jimenez's suggestion was "irresponsible."

"They should leave law enforcement to the law enforcers. That's how it works. If all Filipinos play the role of cops, there will be chaos and anarchy," said the opposition senator.

The main challenge

Lacson said the government, particularly the police, should take the call as a challenge "to remain vigilant and always on their toes to protect the citizenry and make them feel safe in their homes and in the streets."

The Jimenez proposal was acceptable to Sen. Ramon Magsaysay Jr. who said, however, that the people should keep their arms in their homes.

"They should have permits for these firearms. They should protect themselves and secure their homes, but within the bounds of law," he said in an interview.

Senate Majority Leader Francis Pangilinan said the real challenge facing the authorities was how to dispense swift justice and impose punishment on criminals.

"It is not the severity but the certainty of punishment for violations of our laws that will strike fear in the hearts of would-be criminals," Pangilinan said.

Hollow, less meaningful

Renato Reyes Jr., secretary general of the leftist Bagong Alyansang Makabayan, downplayed Ms Arroyo's move. "The signing of the law abolishing the death penalty is hollow and is made less meaningful by the continued killings of activists and journalists," Reyes said.

"We're very happy and thankful to the President," Alfredo Corpuz, 49, sentenced to death in 1996 for kidnapping, told Reuters at the country's main prison in Muntinlupa.

"I hope the government could also give us a second chance by reviewing our cases because many of my colleagues on death row are really innocent."

But some convicts were ambivalent, dreading the idea of spending the rest of their lives in jail. *With reports from Tina G. Santos, Estanislao Caldez, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau, Reuters*

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo chats with the Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Fernando Filoni, the Pope's representative to the Philippines, after signing the bill abolishing the death penalty yesterday. Ms Arroyo leaves today for an official trip to the Vatican, where she is to meet with Pope Benedict XVI, and Spain.

'Attack had earmarks of MILF, JI'

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO yesterday denounced the bomb attack in a public market in Maguindanao against Gov. Andal Amputuan and ordered authorities to go after its perpetrators.

The military said the bombing bore the signature of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front and the Jemaah Islamiya terrorist group.

Amputuan escaped unhurt in Friday's attack that left six people dead.

"I condemn this act of terrorism in the strongest terms as a crime against peace and humanity," said the President reading a prepared speech at Malacañang.

"We'll never be intimidated by these treacherous acts and we shall fight terror as seriously as we embrace peace and development, solidarity among our law-abiding citizens and our strategic alliances. This commitment stands firm and will not relent until the total defeat of terrorism in every part of the country," the President said.

"The authorities must identify the perpetrators, launch a manhunt with the proper rewards, and bring them to justice," Ms Arroyo said.

The President also extended her condolences to the victims of the attack, which included Ampatuan's nephew Kamlaon Ampatuan. "I assure them that the search for justice will be firm and relentless," the President said.

Ampatuan was unscathed but four people riding in a car that was following his vehicle were killed. Two other fatalities, including a 3-year-old girl, were on the roadside near the public market, when the bomb exploded at around 7 a.m.

Col. Felipe Tabas, commander of the Army's 604th Infantry Brigade based in Tacurong, Sultan Kudarat, said that except for the MILF and the JI, no other group was capable of making such type of bomb.

Tabas said the bomb was made up of four 81-mm mortar shells fitted with a timer.

Eid Kabalu, MILF spokesperson, denied any MILF involvement in the attack and offered to help in the investigation and arrest of the attackers.

Ustadz Mohammad Muntasir, chair of the MILF's religious propagation committee, described the attack as "the handiwork of insane people or persons of bloody upbringing."

Maj. Gen. Rodolfo Obaniana, commander of the Army's 6th Infantry Division based in Maguindanao, earlier said the MILF continued to coddle JI terrorists. *Jeoffrey Maitem, Charlie Señase with a report from Aquiles Zonio, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

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Fidel Castro speech in book form is RP leftists' reply to GMA

By Volt Contreras

TALK ABOUT THE PEN BEING mightier than the sword.

A Filipino translation of Cuban President Fidel Castro's "History Will Absolve Me" (*La Historia Me Absolvera*) speech is the leftists' initial answer to President Macapagal-Arroyo's billion-peso challenge to finish off the communist insurgency in two years.

Kasaysayan ang Magpapawalang-sala sa Akin, translated by Carl Ala, media officer of the militant Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas peasant group, and edited with an introduction by Bayan Muna Rep. Satur Ocampo, was launched last week at the Popular Bookstore in Quezon City.

The book-length speech constituted Castro's defense in his 1953 trial for leading a failed attempt to oust the Cuban dictator Gen. Fulgencio Batista. The young lawyer-turned-rebel leader delivered the speech extemporaneously for five hours. Six years later he seized power in the Caribbean island-nation which he rules to this day.

Ala, who did the Filipino translation from an English version supplied by the Cuban Embassy, said the book "tells us how to fight tyranny, for history has proven that to struggle against oppression is always right and justified".

"The launch can be seen as part of our efforts to counter the increasing attacks of the fascist Arroyo regime on its critics, particularly the Left," said Ala, who said he worked on the translation for two months, starting last January.

The Filipino translation was published by the Philippines-Cuba Friendship Association (Amistad), whose objectives include ``the defense of the gains of the Cuban revolution against the intensified attacks of the United States and its allies."

Jorge Rey Jimenez, the Cuban ambassador who was a special guest at the book launch, harped on this theme in his remarks.

"This historical document, 53 years after being pronounced, has maintained its freshness... and the validity (of its) accusation of the evil that still inhabit our world," he said.

The United States has imposed a trade embargo on Cuba for over four decades, during which Castro has survived a failed US-backed invasion and countless assassination attempts, along with the collapse of his benefactor, the former Soviet Union.

Jimenez formally received copies of the book to be sent to Castro. Also at the launch was former University of the Philippines president Francisco Nemenzo, who heads the Philippine-Cuba Cultural Association.

The book can be considered Amistad's "birthday gift" to the Cuban leader, who is turning 80 on Aug. 13, said Amistad president George Aseniero.

Aseniero said it was only incidental that the book came along shortly after the government announced the all-out war against the communists.

"More than a courtroom speech, it's been translated in many languages and you'll find it as a beautiful piece of literature even if you're not ideologically motivated. It's a moral document of its time," said Aseniero, a specialist in Latin American affairs and a former head of research in Tokyo and Geneva for the United Nations University.

According to Ala, Ocampo edited the draft during the two months that he and the rest of the so-called "Batasan 5" party-list representatives were under protective custody at the House of Representatives to avoid arrest on rebellion charges.

In the book's introduction, Ocampo invites readers to just "replace the term 'Cuban' with 'Filipino'" in Castro's key insights and they could easily relate to his message.

As Aseniero and Jimenez noted, Cuba and the Philippines can be considered "twins," both having developed their sense of nationhood as colonies of Spain.

Castro acted as his own defense attorney at his 1953 trial over the failed uprising that he led on July 26, 1953. The speech provided the foundation for his program of government when he was granted amnesty, resumed the armed struggle with the legendary Ernesto ``Che" Guevarra, and finally assumed power in 1959.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

No vow of silence on Satur's part, says lawyer

PARTY-LIST REP. SATUR OCAMPO, WHO was able to leave for Geneva late Friday only after agreeing to sign an affidavit, made no promise to remain silent about human rights abuses in the country, his lawyer said yesterday.

"Nothing in the affidavit states that Ocampo voluntarily gags himself or surrenders his right to free speech and free expression," lawyer Neri Javier Colmenares said in a statement.

Immigration officers at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport stopped Ocampo and his wife, Carolina Malay, from leaving because of a hold-departure order issued by Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez in connection with rebellion charges filed against them stemming from the foiled coup attempt last February.

The Ocampos were allowed to leave only after two hours of negotiations with immigration officials, Presidential Chief of Staff Michael Defensor and Gonzalez.

According to Colmenares, Ocampo only promised to return on June 30 and to abide by the laws of Switzerland and the Philippines in the single-page affidavit that he signed at the request of Gonzalez.

He said Ocampo's mission was to meet with United Nations and Inter-Parliamentary Union leaders "to personally bring to them complaints, testimonies and evidence of political persecution, political killings and the fabricated rebellion charges against him and other perceived opponents of the Arroyo administration."

Before he boarded his Lufthansa flight, Ocampo acknowledged the role of Defensor in convincing Gonzalez " to respect valid court orders allowing my travel to Geneva."

"They also know fully well that the hold-departure order against me is illegal and had no legal basis whatsoever," he said.

Ocampo claimed to have two court orders backing his trip to Europe—a travel permit issued on June 20 by Makati Judge Reinato Quilala, and the Supreme Court's status quo order of June 14 issued against the Department of Justice and the Philippine National Police.

"The DOJ cannot overrule the courts. Only the courts may invalidate the court order allowing my travel," Ocampo said.

Colmenares, who drafted the handwritten affidavit that Ocampo signed, said he warned. Immigration Commissioner Alipio Fernandez and other immigration officials that they would be held liable for contempt of court and other charges if they insisted on stopping the Ocampos.

Colmenares said the affidavit was nothing but a "face-saving" act for the justice secretary.

"Mr. Gonzalez knows that he has no valid court order backing the DOJ's illegal hold-departure order against Congressman Ocampo. He just demanded this affidavit so he could have something to show his superiors that he tried his best to stop Congressman Ocampo," he said.

"If and when we bring the DOJ and BI to court because of this harassment, they would surely be given a dressing down by Judge Quilala and the magistrates of the high court," he said.

Minutes after the signing of the affidavit, immigration officials stamped the couple's passports and allowed them to board their plane about 30 minutes after the scheduled departure time.

The Switzerland chapter of Migrante International is hosting the Ocampos' stay in Geneva.

Philip C. Tubeza

Magsaysay back after US surgery

By TJ Burgonio

AFTER A SUCCESSFUL PROSTATE OPERATION in the United States, Sen. Ramon Magsaysay Jr. is back in Manila and is raring to get back to legislative work

"I'm happy to be back despite the hot weather and humidity. I'm back home where I belong," a high-spirited Magsaysay said in a phone interview yesterday.

Magsaysay went under the knife on April 5 at the Stanford University Medical Center in California after he was diagnosed with a malignant tumor in his prostate.

"I had a tumor growth in the prostate. It was a malignant tumor; it was a cancerous growth that had to be removed," he said in the interview, breaking months of speculation on his medical condition. "I'm alright now."

Magsaysay, 67, said that he lost 13 lbs from his original weight of 175 lbs immediately after the operation. But he slowly regained some pounds. The last time he checked, he weighed 169 lbs.

"I've regained more than half of what I've lost," he said.

Some legislative staff members and reporters who saw the senator when he paid a brief visit to his office on the fifth floor of the Senate building last week swore that the weight loss was noticeable.

Magsaysay, chair of the Senate committee on agriculture, flew in with his wife Marilou last Monday, more than 100 days after he took a leave on March 2 for a comprehensive medical checkup in the US.

In Manila, he, however, will have to undergo quarterly tests at a local hospital to ensure the tumor will not recur.

Think you're smart? Then take this test

MENSA PHILIPPINES IS INVITING ALL those interested in joining the local chapter of the international society of intellectuals to take its upcoming qualifying test.

Chapter president Dimpy Jazmines said the Mensa test will be held on July 1 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Private Room of the Oakwood Premier hotel at Glorietta 4 in Makati City.

Scoring within the top two percent of the test is the only requirement for joining Mensa, Jasmines said.

The Mensa test is culture-fair and of the type known as "abstract reasoning." It does not test for math or language skills. While there is no strict time limit, most people will finish in an hour or two, Jasmines said.

Test takers may register and start their test anytime between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.

Test takers are required to bring a valid ID with photo and to pay a testing fee of P400, payable only at the testing venue. Undergraduate students may enjoy a discounted rate of P150 upon presentation of a valid school ID.

Providing a forum for intellectual exchange among its members, Mensa currently numbers 100,000 members in over 80 countries worldwide. Actress Geena Davis, comedian John Cleese, Scott Adams (Dilbert), Matt Groening (The Simpsons) and science-fiction writer Isaac Asimov are some of the more prominent Mensans.

Mensa Philippines 2006 officers, aside from Jazmines, are Marimel Villapando, vice president; Val Choa, secretary; Dodie Navarro, treasurer, and Jan So, auditor. Its board of trustees is chaired by Winthrop Yu; the vice chair is Marla Endriga.

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Palawan RP's safest: No faults, quakes, volcanoes

From page A1

tsunami was generated by a movement in the Sulu Trench, but no casualties were reported, according to Phivolcs.

There was also a report of an earthquake with an epicenter in Palawan about a century ago, but this has to be reviewed as scientists doubt the reliability of the data due to the insufficiency of monitoring instruments.

"The suspicion is that it was an error in location because more recently there has been no detection in Palawan. It's a very quiet place," Bautista said.

Monitoring stations

From only 29 stations in the early 1990s, the Philippines now has 64 seismic stations, 34 of which are manned. The other 30 are unmanned and send information to the Phivolcs central office in Diliman, Quezon City, via a satellite communication system.

Experts say the Philippines, which lies on the Pacific Ring of Fire, needs around 100 seismic stations placed strategically over its 7,100 islands.

The Philippines sits on at least 28 major faults and one continuous fault that spans northern Luzon to eastern Mindanao called the Philippine Fault Zone. Geologists continue to find new faults that are still unnamed.

The country has been hit by 10 earthquakes with magnitude 7 or higher in the last 35 years.

"The likelihood of these destructive earthquakes occurring again is indeed very strong," the Phivolcs said in a primer.

Seismically active areas

Based on the distribution of earthquake epicenters, the most seismically active part of the Philippines is eastern Mindanao, Samar and Leyte, with at least 16 perceptible earthquakes per year caused by the subduction of the Philippine Trench.

Active Fault

The other "relatively active" areas of the country are those near Dingalan Bay, Casiguran, Lubang Island and Mindoro, according to Phivolcs.

The closest active fault to Palawan is the Aglubang River fault in Mindoro, 130 km from the province. The Manila Trench, another earthquake generator, however, lies closer at around 100 km.

Vulnerable to tsunamis

"Palawan is more vulnerable to the Manila Trench because it's only 100 km away," Bautista said.

While Palawan is relatively safe, Phivolcs installed five seismic stations in the province. The stations are located in the capital city of Puerto Princesa, El Nido, Bataraza, Cuyo Island and Coron.

"They are aware that their place is safe from earthquakes, but they have to be careful about tsunamis, and we used that to raise awareness and generate support from the local government," Bautista said.

ONLY TIME AND THE DIVINE could have brought forth an exquisite landscape of rocks rising out of the sea on Coron Island, Palawan.

JAIME O. LORENZO

NATURE TRIPPING in a mangrove forest in Sabang near the Bambua Nature Park in Palawan.

RYAN LIM

IN THE KNOW

- AN EARTHQUAKE IS A FEEBLE TO VIOLENT trembling of the ground caused by the sudden displacement of rocks or rock materials below the earth's surface. It can cause landslides, ground shaking, ground rupture, tsunami and liquefaction.
- There are two types of earthquakes: Tectonic quakes, caused by sudden movements along fault fissures in the solid and rigid layer of the earth, and volcanic quakes, induced by lava or magma rising from beneath the surface of active volcanoes.
- The Philippine archipelago lies between two tectonic plates, the Philippine Sea Plate and the Eurasian Plate. The Philippine Sea Plate is moving toward the Philippine archipelago at about 7 cm per year while the Eurasian plate is being subducted along the western side of Luzon and Mindoro at the rate of 3 cm per year.
- The Philippines has 28 major faults and counting. The longest fault, the Philippine Fault Zone, spans Ilocos Norte to Davao del Sur.
- The country experiences 20-25 earthquakes daily or around 9,125 earthquakes a year but these are not strong enough to be felt. Magnitude 6 quakes are considered strong while magnitude 7 quakes are considered major.
- There has been no earthquake in Palawan for more than 10,000 years while the most seismically active areas - eastern Mindanao, Samar and Leyte - experience at least 16 earthquakes per year.
- The strongest earthquake that can hit Metro Manila would be caused by the Valley Fault System, also known as the Marikina Fault. At magnitude 7.2, an earthquake generated by this fault can damage 494,000 houses, kill 51,500 people and injure 114,000 others.
- Earthquake monitoring was first done by the Ateneo Observatory in Manila during the Spanish period. It was later transferred to the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration before being delegated to Phivolcs.

Source: Philvolcs

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CHR: Still no proof of death squads but…

By Norman Bordadora

THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS has yet to receive evidence of the existence of so-called death squads going after unarmed militants but a commissioner said he would not be surprised if government forces were involved.

Lawyer Dominador Calamba, CHR officer in charge, told the INQUIRER the commission would soon take up the continuing killings of members of leftist organizations that security officials had tagged as legal fronts of the New People's Army, the armed component of the Communist Part of the Philippines.

"No, we still have no information about that," said Calamba when asked about the existence of military death squads going after members of militant groups, particularly in the countryside.

"But I would not be surprised if we find out they are involved. They have the means and the resources," said Calamba, a long-time CHR member who had stints in southern Philippines and the Visayas before becoming commissioner.

Calamba is temporarily at the helm of the CHR in lieu of chair Purificacion Quisumbing who is abroad and is not expected back until mid-July.

"We will probably have meetings with the representatives of the military and the PNP next month. We'd want to know how come the killings continue and why they remain unsolved," Calamba said.

Calamba said that despite the formation by the PNP of Task Force Usig to look into the killings of militants and journalists and to bring those behind them to justice, the killings go on and no killers had been brought to justice.

"We'd want to be briefed why the killings continue to happen," Calamba said.

Quisumbing in late May said the government was responsible for the killings of activists whether or not its forces were behind the assassinations.

She said that from a human rights standpoint it was the government's responsibility to make sure its citizens were protected and that such crimes were solved.

Asked about documents allegedly detailing the Armed Forces' Oplan Bantay Laya and other campaigns targeting sectoral groups alleged to be NPA fronts, Calamba said he had yet to see the papers.

"I wish the sources of the KMP (Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas) would provide the commission with copies of the documents," Calamba said.

The KMP had earlier said a source inside Camp Aguinaldo had given them copies of intelligence plans to monitor sectoral groups.

The leftists believe the intelligence plans resulted in the rash of killings of activists since 2002.

In Legazpi City, a Stop the Killings campaign organized by Karapatan-Bikol and supported by Catholic, Protestant and militant groups and friends and relatives of slain activists was launched on Friday.

The six-month campaign, which ends on Dec. 10, aims to strengthen the call for justice and to stop extrajudicial killings in the region and the country.

John Concepcion, Karapatan-Bikol spokesperson, said the Bicol region suffered the most number of political killings —89 of the some 600 cases happened in the region as of the last week of May—with the most recent incident the killing of former communist leader Sotero Llamas in Tabaco City.

"It may really be an irony that we are now asking justice from the government, which we also have been pointing to as being the possible perpetrator of these killings. But we believe it is the government's responsibility to bring justice to the victims and their families," Concepcion said.

For the campaign, the relatives of slain activists, church people and human rights advocates will meet every third Saturday of the month in public places to protest the series of killings under the Arroyo administration.

With Ephraim Aguilar, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, June 25, 2006
12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: Job 38:1, 8-11

The cry of Job

Then Yahweh answered Job out of the storm:

Who shut the sea behind closed doors
when it burst forth from the womb,
when I made the clouds its garment
and thick darkness its swaddling clothes;
when I set its limits
with doors and bars in place,
when I said, "You will not go beyond these bounds;
here is where your proud waves must halt?"

2nd Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:14-17

New things have come

Indeed the love of Christ holds us and we realize that if he died for all, all have died. He died for all so that those who live may live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and rose again for them. And so from now on, we do not regard anyone from a human point of view; and even if we once knew Christ personally, we should now regard him in another way.

For that same reason, the one who is in Christ is a new creature. For him the old things have passed away; a new world has come.

Gospel: Mark 4:35-41

Even wind and sea obey him

On that same day when evening had come, Jesus said to them, "Let's go across to the other side." So they left the crowd and took him away in the boat he had been sitting in, and other boats set out with him. Then a storm gathered and it began to blow a gale. The waves spilled over into the boat so that it was soon filled with water. And Jesus was in the stern, asleep on the cushion.

They woke him up and said, "Master, don't you care if we sink?" As Jesus awoke, he rebuked the wind and ordered the sea, "Quiet now! Be still!" The wind dropped and there was a great calm. Then Jesus said to them, "Why are you so frightened? Do you still have no faith?"

But they were terrified and they said to one another, "Who can this be? Even the wind and the sea obey him!"

Commentary

God is the Lord/maker of creation and his power is revealed in the skies/clouds, and the waters of the sea, in limitless wonder and in bounds set by God's design. This is our God revealed in Jesus as Father. We are baptized into God, and live no longer for ourselves alone, but hidden with Christ in God. Our lives have meaning in a much larger design than anything we can know. Jesus too is Lord of heaven and earth, the beloved son of the Father, working in the Spirit. How strong is our faith? How consistent? How much do we really know the person of Jesus Christ, Lord?

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Palawan plants 100,000 trees on Feast of Forest

By Jerry E. Esplanada

PUERTO PRINCESA, Palawan—More than 100,000 tree seedlings were planted yesterday at the Irawan watershed area here in observance of the 16th annual Pista Y ang Kagueban, or "Feast of the Forest" in the Cuyonen dialect.

Pista Y ang Kagueban, touted as Palawan's "biggest environmental fiesta," seeks to rehabilitate the denuded forests of Puerto Princesa, recognized as the country's "greenest and cleanest city."

"Puerto Princesa folk look forward to this annual event," said Mayor Edward S. Hagedorn of the annual festival that was started in 1990 by former employees of the Palawan Integrated Area Development Project office in Irawan.

Aside from high school and college students, government employees and representatives of several nongovernment organizations, members of indigenous communities, like the Tagbanua and the Batak, Palawan's vanishing tribes, also took part in yesterday's festivities.

Batak tribal folk came down from their settlements on the slopes of Cleopatra's Needle, a 1,593-meter peak that is one of Palawan's most famous landmarks.

Whole day entertainment

The tree-planting rites were held at the Irawan watershed. Irawan is close to the city's popular tourist attractions—the Palawan Animal Rescue and Rehabilitation Center, formerly the Crocodile Farm, and the Iwahig Penal Colony.

Two Air Force helicopters from the Western Command headquarters here conducted aerial seeding in the Irawan area to the delight of *Pista* participants.

The participants were also treated to a whole day of entertainment, with performances by Ely Buendia and the Pupil Band, Sining ng Katutubo (Sinika) and Pangkat Kalinangan, among others, and games led by comedienne Ethel Booba, co-host of the GMA-7 Extra Challenge reality show.

Hagedorn is so proud of the festival that he wants to take it to the rest of the country and have the feat recorded in the Guinness Book of Records.

Nationwide tree-planting

"Imagine local folk in the country's 116 other cities and 1,501 municipalities planting seedlings simultaneously," said Hagedorn, who led the tree-planting rites with Rep. Abraham Kahlil Mitra and Vice Mayor Cecil Bayron.

"That would be good for the environment, and at the same time show to the whole world that Pinoys can be united for a common cause like the environment," he said.

"Getting the attention of the Guinness Book of Records would be an added bonus," he said.

The mayor said he would discuss the idea with President Macapagal-Arroyo and the League of Municipalities and League of Cities which he chairs.

While Puerto Princesa has been religiously planting trees for 16 years, some parts of the country have not done so, said Hagedorn.

PUERTO Princesa Mayor Edward S. Hagedorn hands over a seedling to a Palawan tribe member during the tree-planting celebrating the 16th Pista Y ang Cagueban. EDWIN BACASMAS

City Environment Office chief Roger Daquer and Wilfredo Ong, head of the TagBalay Foundation environmental group, said the mayor's nationwide tree-planting proposal was a "very good idea."

Aside from fast-growing trees like gemelina and Japanese acacia, local species like narra, acacia and ipil, among others, and fruit-bearing varieties like duhat and mango were planted yesterday.

Seedlings

More than 1.7 million seedlings have been planted since 1991 in Irawan and Barangay Sta. Lourdes. Hagedorn moved the festival's planting site to the latter barangay when he became mayor in 1992 as the Irawan watershed has been fully recovered.

Daquer said the survival rate of trees in the Pista Y ang Kagueban remained high at 70 to 80 percent.

He noted that in 1997, a record 211,260 seedlings were planted. Last year, the seedlings totaled 140,000.

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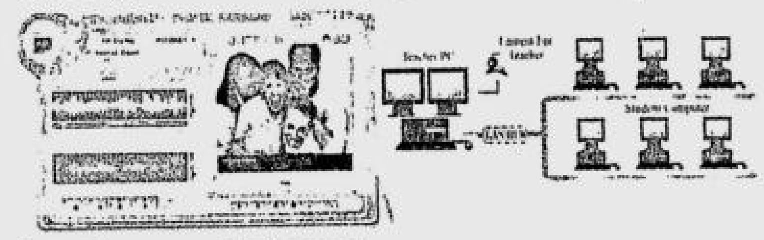

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DENR lets firm take marble out of Biak-na-Bato

LA TRINIDAD, BENGUET—Environment Secretary Angelo Reyes clarified on Saturday that he had simply imposed a status quo order on a firm mining marble inside the Biak-na-Bato nature park in Bulacan.

Reyes told reporters here on Saturday the order allowed the Rosemoor Mining and Development Corp. to transport marble boulders for export.

The status quo order, he said, would take effect while government experts studied the legal impact of Rosemoor's quarrying operations on the park in Doña Remedios Trinidad town in Bulacan.

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources heeded the warnings of environmentalists and closed down the quarry in March.

Ore transport permit

Reyes said the status quo order did not nullify the ore transport permit (OTP) of Rosemoor that covered the hauling of almost 800 cubic meters of marble boulders. The order was issued before the government crackdown.

Reyes said the OTP only allowed Rosemoor to ship marble it had previously carved from the mountains at Biak-na-Bato.

"Once the OTP is exhausted," the DENR will no longer issue new OTPs until it makes a decision regarding the existence of a 330-hectare quarry operation inside the park, he said.

Economic question

The secretary was here to launch the Benguet leg of a nationwide recycling campaign.

But Reyes told reporters the government's final decision on the fate of Rosemoor addresses "an economic question" that is plaguing the Arroyo administration.

Rosemoor is quarrying tea rose marble, a pink rock with white streaks that is in high demand abroad, Reyes said.

Homegrown facility

"The marble at Biak-na-Bato is precious. I went there the other day. I saw the export quality of the boulders which is really a rarity... [that] is in demand abroad," he said.

Reyes said the government is eyeing an alternative project that would require the development of a homegrown processing facility for tea rose marble and other Biak-na-Bato minerals, in lieu of exporting raw marble boulders.

"There should be processing, *hindi lang yung* (not only that) we export raw materials and that's it. There should be more value added to [the raw tea rose marble], if we export finished goods," he said.

Downstream industry

Theoretically, providing a downstream industry for tea rose marble would also increase employment opportunities, Reyes said.

"It's an economic question. Some people will say this is precious and therefore we should conserve it. But we could say it's available, we could earn income from it. What I'm saying is if we want to generate income from [tea rose marble], we should generate more downstream industries," he said.

He said the committee he formed to look into the quarrying operations would be coming out with its decision soon.

Vincent Cabreza and Frank Cimatu, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Republic of the Philippines
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Treasurer's Office

Serbisyong Bayan SB Lungsod Quezon

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ORDINANCE NO. SP-1663, S-2006
(PO2006-41)

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE CITY MAYOR TO REQUIRE THE CITY TREASURER OR HIS DULY AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES TO APPREHEND PERSONS, CORPORATIONS AND ENTITIES DOING BUSINESS IN QUEZON CITY NOT ISSUING RECEIPTS AND/OR SALES INVOICE.

INVITATION TO BID

The Quezon City Government is inviting interested bidders to participate in the Public Auction Sale of real properties with delinquent tax payments located in Quezon City to be held on August 25, 2006.

A cash bond of Php 5,000.00 is required upon registration. For more details, please visit us at the City Treasurer's Office, Ground Floor, Quezon City Hall, or call us at (02) 925-6045 local 474.

NOTICE TO QUEZON CITY TAXPAYERS

The Quezon City Government shall conduct a Public Auction Sale of real properties with delinquent tax payment on August 25, 2006.

The list of real properties for sale shall be published on newspapers of nationwide circulation on August 6, 13 and 20, 2006.

All property owners are advised to settle/pay their tax delinquencies on or before the said date to avoid inclusion to the sale.

VICTOR B. ENDRIGA, Ph. D.
City Treasurer

It 'hailed' in Baguio City

BAGUIO CITY—ICE PELLETS, a fourth the size of marbles, fell along with a thunderstorm that hit this city on Saturday.

Wilson Lucando, weather observer of the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Service Administration (Pagasa) here, said ice pellets or hailstones rained on downtown Baguio at 4:07 p.m., catching people off guard.

Minutes later, he said, Pagasa received telephone calls from residents living in the downtown vicinity reporting the same phenomenon.

Pagasa had forecast thunderstorms on Saturday, Lucando said, but the combination of extreme humidity and the warm afternoon solidified the air moisture that formed into cumulonimbus clouds, which rained down as ice pellets.

Hailstorms also hit Atok and Kibungan towns recently and destroyed vegetables growing there.

Pagasa said hailstones are raindrops in the form of small ice balls that form from nimbus clouds due to intense surface heat.

Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Manila Water

NOTICE TO
MANILA WATER CUSTOMERS
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The Foreign Currency Differential Adjustment (FCDA) will **increase** from **P0.09** per cubic meter to **P0.24,** effective fifteen (15) days after publication in general circulation newspapers. FCDA is based on exchange rate of P52.127 per US Dollar.

FCDA is a tariff mechanism used by utility companies that is adjusted upwards to recover losses if the peso depreciates and downwards if the peso appreciates against other currencies. Manila Water has to continue paying for the foreign exchange denominated concession fees to the MWSS, as well as loans required for its service expansion and improvement.

The FCDA was approved by the Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System Regulatory Office in its Resolution No. 06-005-CA dated June 13, 2006 as confirmed by the MWSS Board Resolution No. 2006-117 dated June 22, 2006.

Manila Water Company, the East Zone concessionaire covers the following areas: Manila (San Andres and Sta. Ana only), Quezon City (east of San Juan River, West Avenue, EDSA, Congressional and Mindanao Ave., Districts of Tandang Sora, Pasong Tamo and Matandang Balara), Makati City (east of South Super Highway), Mandaluyong City, San Juan, Marikina City, Pasig City, Pateros, Taguig – all in Metro Manila; Rizal Province.

CBCP: Sex ed is parents' job

PARENTS, NOT THE SCHOOLS, have the sole responsibility of teaching their children sex education, according to the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines, as it reiterated its opposition to the Department of Education's plan to use a controversial teaching module on sex education in the public schools.

The distribution of the module was temporarily halted earlier this month because of the CBCP's objections. But early this week the DepEd said it was going ahead with the use of the module, arguing that public schoolchildren needed lessons in adolescent sexuality to help them make responsible decisions.

Responsibility

Archbishop Paciano Aniceto, who chairs the CBCP Episcopal Commission on Family and Life, said it was the parents, not the teachers, who should be teaching their children about sex.

"The Catholic Church teaches that sex education is the sole right and responsibility of parents and no excuse or alibi can justify the public teaching of sex education by strangers," Aniceto said in a statement.

Being uncomfortable with discussing sex with their children was no excuse for parents to shirk this responsibility, he said.

Not a mere school subject

If the parents do not know how to go about it, then the government should develop a module that would prepare them to undertake the responsibility, Aniceto said.

The archbishop said sexuality should be taught in the context of marriage and "not as a mere subject in a classroom which is devoid of values."

He said sex education in the public schools would put the schoolchildren's moral and spiritual well-being at risk.

The information might be helpful to some, but it could also constitute "child abuse" against others in class, he said.

"Although the students may be of similar ages, their exposure to sex and related matters are never the same. What is information for one may be a corruption of the others," Aniceto said.

No parent would like to see his or her child scandalized by the terminology used in the module.

"We cannot condone the mindless shortcuts to indoctrinate our children about sex," Aniceto said.

Controversial

Earlier this week, Vilma Labrador, a DepEd assistant secretary, announced that the department would be pushing ahead with the distribution of the controversial module, initially to two pilot schools, the Parañaque National High School and the Taguig National High School, for the instruction of junior and senior high school students.

Arguing that the children's well-being was also the school's responsibility, Labrador said the lessons would help in the formation of values and provide a good foundation for public school students to make decisions related to sex.

"We want to teach them to value their bodies," she said, while careful to refer to the lessons as being about "adolescent reproductive health," not sex education. *Leila B. Salaverria*

Education biggest casualty of reenacted budget, says solon

By Philip C. Tubeza

THE COUNTRY'S ALREADY FALtering public school system will be worst hit by the non-passage of the proposed 2006 national budget, a ranking administration lawmaker warned yesterday.

House Deputy Majority Leader Eduardo Gullas said that some P11.5 billion worth of vital projects intended to shore up the troubled public school system would be "deprived of funding" if the budget were not passed.

"These and other crucially important items could not possibly be adequately funded by the 2005 budget of P907.6 billion, with which government has been operating since January," Gullas said in a statement.

Projects

Gullas, an educator, said these projects include the training of school teachers in English, Math and Science (P581 million); the construction of 4,578 new classrooms (P2.9 billion); the hiring of 9,200 additional teachers (P2.7 billion).

The tuition subsidy for 475,000 underprivileged secondary students forced to enroll in private schools due to inadequate public school facilities (P2 billion); the distribution of 18.1 million English textbooks (P1.8 billion), and the nutrition support programs for 2.5 million grade students (P1.5 billion).

To reinforce expertise

Gullas said the training of teachers and the distribution of new English textbooks "were particularly essential to check the deteriorating English skills of our students."

He said the training would have provided an initial batch of 25,000 teachers three weeks of university-based special instruction to reinforce their expertise in English as well as in Math and Science.

The Department of Education (DepEd) had blamed deficient instruction for the rapid decline of student proficiency in the three subjects, Gullas said.

Necessary skills

"Strong command of English, Math and Science is absolutely necessary for our students—future labor force participants—to stay globally competitive," he said.

Gullas said the results of the last national achievement tests showed that elementary and high school students had mastery levels of only 45 percent to 60 percent in the three subjects.

This was well below the DepEd-required minimum mastery level of 75 percent, he pointed out.

19 of every 100

Gullas, author of a bill reinstating English as the medium of instruction in schools, also cited a DepEd study showing that only 19 of every 100 teachers "have the confidence and competence to teach English."

Outgoing Senate President Franklin Drilon earlier expressed pessimism that Congress would still be able to pass the P1.053-trillion proposed national budget for 2006.

No hope for a budget

"There is no hope we will have a budget for 2006. I do not see the bicameral conference committee working during this break. Besides, there is no sense in passing the budget. When we come back in July, the President will already be submitting the 2007 budget," Drilon said.

But Budget Secretary Rolando Andaya Jr. has not given up hope on the new budget.

"We are not throwing in the towel yet," Andaya said, citing Congress' penchant to pass bills "at the 11th hour."

RP Red Cross hosts 1st SEA youth leaders' meet

THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL RED Cross, through its Red Cross Youth arm, is hosting the first Southeast Asian National Youth Leaders Summit on June 26-30 in Cebu City.

With the theme "Red Cross Youth Volunteerism and Leadership in South East Asia: A Powerful Synergy for Humanity," one of the aims of the summit is the design of a Regional Work Plan for Youth Development anchored on the Youth Policy of the International Federation of the Red Cross and the strategies for the youth crafted by each Red Cross national society.

Through these initiatives, the PNRC hopes the youth will have an avenue where they could express common concerns and learn to contribute to the relief of human suffering and promote peace in the world.

The summit will be attended by Red Cross Youth delegates from Thailand, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, East Timor, Vietnam, Burma (Myanmar), Cambodia, Laos and Brunei.

Red Cross Youth, founded in 1917 as the Junior Red Cross, and the International Red Cross have been close partners in public service. Its goal is to develop young people by providing them with opportunities for volunteer service that would ingrain in them humanitarian ideals.

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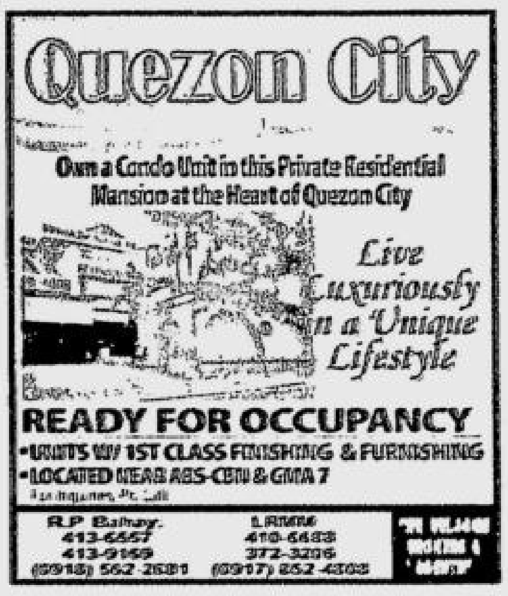

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Maggie: There's no escaping law of karma

From page A1

years there was a registered drop in criminality.

"But how can it be a deterrent today? Since the restoration of the death penalty in December 1993, with so many criminals being meted [out] the death penalty for heinous crimes, was there one single execution in a period of five years? No. If no one was executed, how then can capital punishment serve as a deterrent?"

Fear of reprisals

She said the execution of her assailants "assuaged the hurt and the fear inside of me and provided me with the peace of mind I so desired. It gave me the chance to put the past behind me, to pick up the pieces and start a new life."

"Had they been meted out only life imprisonment, I would have been wary...I would have lived in fear thinking of reprisals once they were out," she said.

Talking with the INQUIRER last week, De la Riva urged thousands of rape victims who have maintained a pained silence to be "brave, come out in the open, speak up and, fight for your rights."

Don't keep pain inside

"If you want justice, bring them to court...You cannot keep the pain inside you forever. It will make you bitter. If you don't release it you'll never be free," she emphasized.

She stressed another point: "The people who did it to you have moved on. They don't even care. But you are chained to that person through your hatred. So if you don't forgive, it's you who will suffer. You're forgiving that person not because he deserves it but because it will give you much-needed peace of mind."

"When that misfortune happened to me, I realized that although my body was raped my true self was never defiled and that there's another person in me that's beautiful, strong and true. The old Maggie has faded away. I look at my experience as something that happened to someone else who is no longer the person I am today."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

BEFORE THE ABDUCTION-RAPE in 1967, Maggie de la Riva was a movie star with a promise to shine even brighter.

According to the women's group Gabriela, for every rape victim, another two, if not three others suffer in silence.

Citing Philippine National Police figures, Gabriela said a total of 4,528 rape cases had been reported between 2001 and 2004.

The social welfare department, on the other hand, recorded 4,592 and 3,789 rape cases in 2003 and 2004, respectively.

For the first quarter of 2006 alone, 696 rape cases were reported to the PNP.

"But thousands of similar cases remain unreported to the authorities," said Jovita Mataro-Montes of Gabriela. "Many of the victims live in fear for their lives. Others are hesitant to come out in the open for fear of being ostracized by family members, friends or the society in general."

Strength from God

De la Riva said: "It's a very, very traumatic experience. *Kailangang sandalan mo talaga ang Diyos* (You really have to lean on God)... It takes a toll on you physically, emotionally and spiritually. And you need to prepare because some people will paint you as the worst kind of person."

The day after De la Riva was abducted in 1967, she told media she had no intention of filing charges against her assailants. The Daily Mirror quoted her as saying they did not do her any wrong.

Two days later, she had a change of heart.

The incident happened at 3:45 a.m., according to the Mirror. De la Riva had just come from the ABS studios then on Roxas Boulevard in Pasay City accompanied by her maid. She was driving her bantam car when the four men in a Pontiac tried to bump her vehicle.

Blindfolded in the car

One of the men jumped out of the car and rushed towards De la Riva. After she was pulled out of her car, she was made to sit at the rear. They blindfolded her and brought her to the hotel.

She struggled but one of the men punched her in the stomach and legs. After the man assaulted her, the three others followed suit, one after the other.

When she would lose consciousness, the men doused her with water and slapped her face to revive her.

When it was over, the men dropped her on Pasong Tamo in Makati.

Other victims

The Mirror reported that at least five other popular movie and TV actresses had suffered the same harrowing experience as De la Riva. But unlike her, they kept silent.

De la Riva recalled that sometime in the 1970s, somebody asked her if she felt guilty over the execution of her rapists.

"I looked that person in the eye and told him they did it to themselves...That they chose to ignore the law and they suffered the consequences of their actions. They committed that crime with their eyes open."

"There's a law in life regardless of whether you get caught or not for doing something bad or illegal. That's karma. And sometimes the consequence of that natural law is the death penalty," she said.

Justice in the end

De la Riva believes that "more often than not, justice prevails."

"The blessings that God has given me far outweigh the pain and hurt of the past," she said.

De la Riva currently co-hosts the NBN-4 weekly talk show Double M. She is also a top distributor of "health maintenance and sickness prevention products" of Nikken, a Japanese wellness institute.

Of the more than 80 films she has done, one of the most memorable was her 1994 biopic "The Maggie de la Riva Story," said to be one of local filmdom's biggest box-office hits of all time.

Always, the positive

During the past couple of years, De la Riva has been relegated to supporting, if not bit, roles in films and TV shows.

But it's okay, said the actress.

As in her 1967 ordeal, she said: "You should always look at things from the positive point of view."

They just want to …

From page A1

scheduled private meeting with Pope Benedict XVI at the Vatican on June 26.

This would explain why an unusually large delegation will accompany the President on her departure today for her one-week trip to Italy and Spain.

"The congressmen just wanted to see the Pope and a few of them decided to take their partners with them," Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita told the INQUIRER.

After the meeting with the Pope at the Apostolic Palace, Ms Arroyo will visit the Basilica crypt of Pope John Paul II.

Travel authority

Ermita clarified that only members of the executive branch like Cabinet members and department executives had been granted travel authority by Malacañang, which would entitle them to travel expenses and allowances.

He said the expenses of the rest of the delegation would be charged to their respective agencies.

In a statement, Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye said the Vatican City visit was an opportunity for Ms Arroyo to meet the Pope for the first time and to reaffirm the country's special ties with the Vatican.

The Philippines has the largest Catholic population in Asia, and the third largest in the world.

Five of the 20 congressmen in the official delegation are bringing their spouses with them, namely, Nueva Ecija Rep. Rodolfo W. Antonino and wife, Rosa Marina; Pampanga Rep. Francis Nepomuceno and wife, Regina; Batangas Rep. Victoria Reyes and husband, Rodrigo; Masbate Rep. Rizalina Seachon Lanete and husband, Joshur Judd, and Bukidnon Rep. Juan Miguel Zubiri and wife, Audrey.

The other congressmen keen on meeting the Pope are Rodolfo Albano III of Isabela, Jesus Reynaldo Aquino of Pampanga, Arthur Defensor of Iloilo, Del de Guzman of Marikina City, Cecilia Jalosjos-Carreon of Zamboanga del Norte, Uliran Joaquin of Laguna, Hermilando I. Mandanas of Batangas, Roger Mercado of Southern Leyte, Herminia Ramiro, Lorna Silverio of Bulacan, Danny Suarez of Quezon, Mary Ann Susano of Quezon City, Emmylou Talino Santos of North Cotabato, Eduardo Veloso of Leyte and Amelita Villarosa of Occidental Mindoro.

Aside from the congressmen and their spouses, the delegation includes eight local government officials, namely, Samar Gov. Ben Evardone (who sparked the people's initiative to change the Constitution) and Manila Mayor Lito Atienza.

Other VIPs on the list are Chief Justice Artemio Panganiban and Senators Edgardo Angara and Miriam Defensor-Santiago.

Only Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo is taking his wife, Lovely Rose, among executive branch officials. The President and First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo will be accompanied by their daughter Evangelina Lourdes (Luli), son Diosdado (Dato) and his wife Maria Victoria Celina, and their granddaughter, Eva Victoria.

Aside from Bunye and Romulo, other Cabinet members joining the trip are Trade and Industry Secretary Peter Favila, Tourism Secretary Joseph Ace Durano, National Security Adviser Norberto Gonzales and Defense Secretary Avelino Cruz Jr.

Aside from the Pope, the President is expected to meet Italian President Giorgio Napolitano, King Juan Carlos I and Queen Sofia of Spain, and Spanish President Jose Luis Rodrigues Zapatero.

Referring to the 55-member delegation that will accompany Ms Arroyo, a militant group accused the President of using the trip to court members of Congress and politicians so that they would junk a projected second impeachment attempt against her and support her proposed Charter change.

The fisherfolk group Pambansang Lakas ng Kilusang Mamamalakaya ng Pilipinas (Pamalakaya) also dismissed the trip as a waste of taxpayer money.

"This European trip wants to accomplish a number of things, like extreme pleasure for pro-Arroyo politicians in exchange for their support for Malacañang's pet projects, like Charter change and the rejection of the second impeachment case," Pamalakaya chair Fernando Hicap said in a statement.

'Fr. Riles' dreams with poor …

From page A1

One official, said to represent a key government agency, asked him about his business there, apparently thinking he was one of a handful of informal settlers who had come to the meeting.

All prejudgements vanished when Fr. Nonong, who earned his masters and doctorate degrees in Rome, spoke—in faultless English.

"Let's focus on the issue," he said, referring to the planned relocation of hundreds of families from several towns in Bulacan. The families were about to lose their "home along the riles" with the multimillion-peso NorthRail project now underway.

He has taken the cause of the informal settlers. He has become their spokesperson. They now fondly call him "Fr. Riles."

Fr. Nonong could have easily avoided subtle attacks on his person had he stayed out of the controversial resettlement issue.

But the 45-year-old priest, a member of the Congregation of the Mission founded by St. Vincent de Paul, was living his dream and had no plans of waking up.

"To be with the poor—this is what I've always wanted," he told the INQUIRER in an interview.

Mediator

Fr. Nonong had volunteered to mediate between the government and some 500,000 residents who were about to lose their homes (mostly shanties) built along the railway project which stretches from north to south in Metro Manila.

His choice was considered an aberration in his 17-year career as a priest and many of his peers were surprised.

Fr. Nonong was provincial secretary of his congregation when he decided to take on the cause of the homeless in January 2005.

He studied in Rome, completing his masters in 1997, and his doctorate in 2003, in missiology, which is the systematic study of the evangelizing activity of the Church.

He also earned a diploma in e-commerce and web design from DePaul University in Chicago in 2000.

With his doctorate degree, the path had been laid out for him for sweat-less jobs in the congregation and the academe, a role he wasn't exactly comfortable with.

"I really wanted to go out to the communities and experience life with the poor," Fr. Nonong said.

Lure of the railway

It's a desire that's been with him since childhood. A native of Angat, Bulacan, he grew up with a grandmother who never turned away strangers who knocked on her door.

"I remember she would tell them to sit with us at the dining table as though we were all family," he recalled. "I never got to ask her why she did this. But she always told us that God was with the poor."

Once he was offered an administrator's job at the Vincentian-run Adamson University in Manila, a job that would have kept him in air-conditioned rooms while helping shape young minds.

But the lure of the railway resettlement row proved to be irresistible for Fr. Nonong. He decided to leave his comfort zone.

Options for the poor

He often found himself at the forefront of negotiations for decent and practical relocation for the poor. It was a role that didn't seem necessary until he volunteered his services.

That time, he said, a deluge of misinformation was clouding the good judgment of informal settlers.

There were officials claiming to be government representatives, promising railway folks compensation if they relocated.

Then there were militant groups offering them a choice between staying put or getting nothing less than Utopia for a new community.

The last option, Fr. Nonong said, was not an alternative—it was impossible.

"The poor wasn't getting the complete picture," he said. "The government would offer informal settlers different packages depending on who's doing the talking. The militant groups would say things like informal settlers would just be driven away with nowhere to go."

Death threats

To shed light on the situation, Fr. Nonong reached out to cause-oriented groups and community leaders.

He went personally to Vice President Noli de Castro, chair of the Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council, project developers, local governments, and officials from agencies like the National Housing Authority.

"Sir, *para sa tao lang tayo* (Let's just be for the people). *Pag di tayo tumulong, magkakadagasaan tayo* (If we don't help, we will clash)." Fr. Nonong told the Vice President in a meeting last year.

In the course of his mediation, the priest said he received at least four death threats. He declined to elaborate, saying he was more focused on delivering his promises.

Relocated families

To date, his non-government organizations—the Homeless People's Federation of the Philippines (HPFP) and the Philippine Association for Community-led Shelter Initiatives—had assisted in the relocation of informal settlers from five municipalities in Bulacan and a community in Makati City.

As of April 15, a total of 4,800 families had been sent to in-town relocation projects in Cabuyao, 1,950 in Meycauayan, 1,911 in Marilao, 1,986 in Bocaue, 1,206 in Balagtas, 1,900 in Guiguinto and 2,200 in Malolos.

Fr. Nonong said it wasn't exactly difficult to convince the families to move. "The idea is to give them sufficient and correct information and they will be able to make the right decision for themselves."

Many settlers, he said, were initially apprehensive about moving because the relocation sites had been painted as barren and obscure, a far more hellish community than their shanties along the tracks.

He admitted that sometimes there was cause for anxiety. But he promised that his group would make sure the poor won't be short-changed.

Not so bad

Those who actually visited the relocation site realized that the place wasn't so bad, he said. "*Pangit lang pala sa dyaryo* (They don't look good only in newspapers)," they would tell him.

Resettlement communities, unlike private subdivisions, usually lack comfort and accessibility, according to Fr. Nonong. Still, they offer an option— decent houses for people who have no other choice but to move.

The HPFP, a network of some 70,000 members around the country, helps provide and promote social services such as micro-financing, health services, feeding programs, tutorials, and programs for the elderly, youth, and special children.

Fr. Nonong also serves as the voice for the predominantly voiceless settlers. Time was when cause-oriented groups, bound by their political ideology, were the only ones communicating the concerns of the poor.

Dignity

Beyond decent shelter, Fr. Nonong said the poor needed to be given back their dignity.

He said he usually helped them achieve this by initially lending them his voice until they're confident enough to speak their minds in the presence of the eloquent and the educated.

He would even go to the extent of telling community representatives what to wear (no shorts and slippers, please), what to say and how to say things during meetings with other stakeholders about the resettlement issue.

"I'm just a bridge. Along the way, I have to disappear to allow them to empower themselves," he said. "The poor can communicate properly, logically, and calmly—once you give them back their dignity."

PNP on nationwide alert as GMA leaves for Europe today

From page A1

still unnamed group to assassinate Ms Arroyo.

Bangit even said that it was the third plot on the President's life since May.

After a 36-hour stay in the hospital, Ms Arroyo was back in her element, wasting no time getting back to her daily grind.

Minutes after arriving in Malacanang, she signed a bill into law abolishing the death penalty in a historic ceremony ***(Story on Page A2)***, gave a speech justifying her pro-life stand and condemning the bombing of the provincial governor's convoy in Maguindanao, and stayed around for 30 minutes to mingle with Cabinet secretaries, government officials, lawmakers, church leaders and diplomats all curious to know how she was feeling after her hospital confinement.

No slowing down

Despite doctors' statements that the "acute infection diarrhea" might have been brought on by work-related stress, Ms Arroyo showed no signs that she was about to slack off.

Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita said he approached Ms Arroyo shortly after her return to the Palace and politely advised her to slow down.

"She just laughed and the first thing she asked me was what was her schedule for today," Ermita said.

Presidential Chief of Staff Michael Defensor said Ms Arroyo would be taking a rest for the remainder of the day. Six scheduled meetings yesterday which were set before she was taken ill were cancelled.

Noisy greetings

Interestingly, Ms Arroyo went into a meeting room immediately after the signing ceremony.

In contrast to her quiet arrival at St. Luke's at 9:30 p.m. Thursday, her exit from the hospital at 9:30 a.m. yesterday was noisy and highly anticipated.

The President was fully made up and dressed in an all-green ensemble when she emerged from the ground floor elevator, with First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo behind her.

A small crowd that had gathered at the hospital lobby cheered lustily when she appeared, smiling and waving to the media and the handful of well-wishers before she stepped into her vehicle.

Atienza's army

A nun who somehow managed to slip past the tight security gave her a hug.

At the Malacañang gates, she was greeted by a mostly women crowd holding up a "Get Well Soon" banner and wearing red T-shirts bearing the legend, "I Love Mayor Lito Atienza."

A small band normally seen in Ati-Atihan festivals provided the noise.

The group appeared to have been diverted from the celebration of Manila City Day.

At the Palace, Ms Arroyo changed into a more formal blue and white suit before proceeding to the signing ceremony.

Alert is SOP

During the week, communist rebel spokesperson Gregorio "Ka Roger" Rosal also warned of a renewed guerrilla offensive against government troops. Rosal said it was their response to Ms Arroyo's "all-out-war" against the New People's Army.

Querol said the heightened alert on Thursday was standard operating procedure undertaken by the PNP whenever the President was sick or confined in a hospital. ***With reports from Leila B. Salaverria and PDI Research***

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Abducted Pinoys OK, says employer

OSLO—TWO Filipino oil workers taken hostage last week in the Niger Delta are in good health, their employer, Norwegian oil services company Petroleum Geo-Services (PGS), said on Friday.

The two Filipinos working near Port Harcourt were abducted on Tuesday at Aker, near a navy base in the city, by six armed men in a speedboat, but no group has claimed responsibility for the kidnapping.

"PGS is pleased to report that it has received further information concerning the state of the two hostages and confirms that they are both in good health," company spokesperson Ola Boesterud told AFP.

"The company hopes that contact can soon be established with the hostage takers and is coordinating efforts to bring this situation to a quick and successful conclusion," he said.

Boesterud declined to say whether any demand for ransom had been received or who his sources of information were.

Earlier Friday, Nigerian officials said security services appeared to have established contact with the kidnappers.

Port Harcourt is at the heart of the Niger Delta region where several oil firms have their operational bases.

Since January, the region has seen a wave of attacks against foreign oil companies and their employees, launched by armed separatists and local communities demanding a larger share in oil revenues and compensation for the destruction of their ecosystem by oil exploration. *AFP*

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		3pm	ART EXHIBIT LAUNCH	Vargas Museum, UP Diliman
		8am	FEDERATION MISSIONS IN DAVAO	Davao City, Davao
SATURDAY	8 July	8am	NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BLOODLETTING	Danarra Hotel, QC /Nationwide
		4pm	BARRIO FIESTA NG BALIK-BETAN	MWSS Multi-purpose, Balara
TUESDAY	11 July	11am	FELLOWSHIP GOLF / CHESS	Valley Golf Club, Antipolo
WEDNESDAY	12 July	1pm	FIGURE / LANDSCAPE PAINTING	Executive House, UP Diliman
		7:30pm	FOLKWAYS	Bahay Alumni, UP Diliman
FRIDAY	14 July	10am	MASS/TAMBAYAN CELEBRATIONS	UP Chapel / Diliman Tambayan
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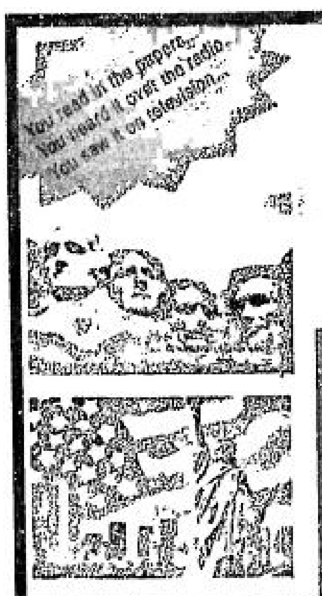

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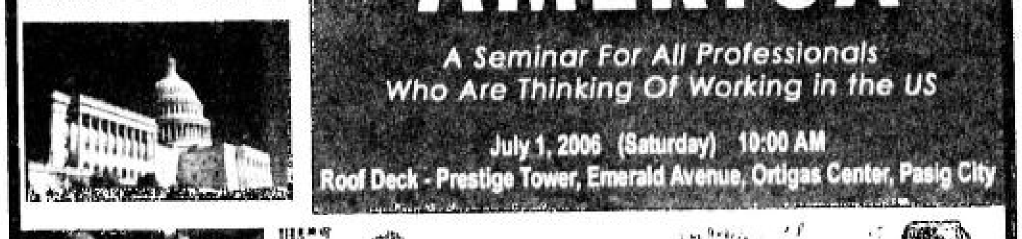

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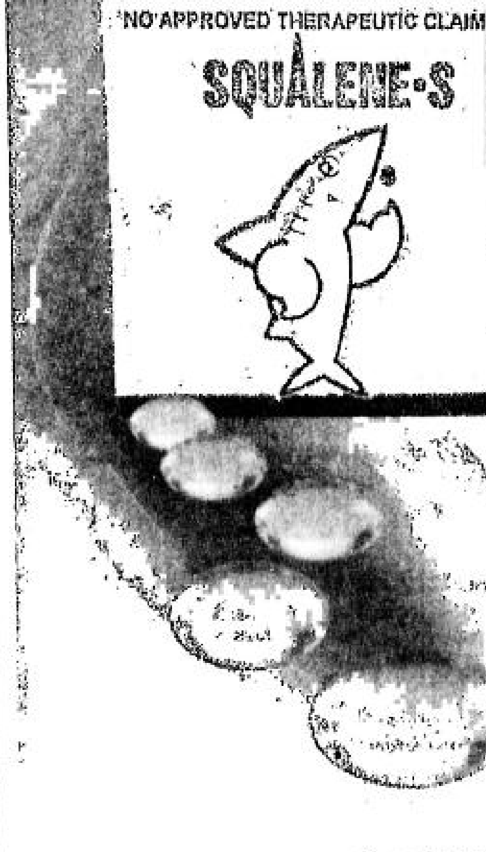

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Taxman

EDITORIAL

LET ME TELL YOU HOW IT WILL BE,' BEGINS THE old Beatles dig at the abuses of punitive taxation. "There's one for you, nineteen for me." The song comes to mind again, after the Arroyo administration ratcheted up its so-called all-out war on the communist insurgency by pledging to prosecute those businesses or individuals who pay "revolutionary taxes" to the New People's Army.

Any insurgency must also be fought on the financial front; on this we can agree. The idea behind Executive Secretary Eduardo Ermita's announcement last week, that authorities will step up their campaign to cut off the NPA's funding sources, is sound, even overdue.

Starve the insurgency of the oxygen it needs to function—the cash to pay for handheld radios and ammunition, meals and combat boots, even the phone cards communist spokesmen use to communicate with the media. That is a necessary (but we hasten to add, hardly solitary) objective.

Now here's the tricky part. Ever since the Communist Party of the Philippines and the NPA were classified as "foreign terrorist organizations" by the United States and then by the European Union, in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 attacks, foreign funding for the insurgency has slowed down. Today, the best estimates tell us, the bulk of funding for the communist insurgency is internally generated—that is to say, most of it is sourced from the imposition of revolutionary taxes.

Now the administration wants to run after those who have been imposed upon.

"They would be appropriately charged should authorities find out who and what they are doing to contribute to the cause of the NPA through revolutionary taxes," Ermita explained to reporters.

Nothing in his explanation, however, makes a distinction between those who volunteer resources to the NPA and those who are forced to do so. If truth is the first casualty of war, then that must be because all nuance, all distinction, is ignored.

President Macapagal-Arroyo's reliable ally in the business community, Donald Dee, was quick to reply to Ermita with a stinging retort. "But if we refuse [to pay taxes to the NPA], can we be protected by the AFP or PNP? If so, how do we get the protection?"

The president of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry was joined in his view by the president of the Federation of Filipino Chinese Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Francis Chua: "No businessman will agree to double taxation if the government is strong enough to protect them."

This is how big business sees the problem; but the view from the ground, from small businesses, is even worse.

A trader in Quezon province did not mince words. "We can't afford to antagonize the NPA. It's too dangerous for business, to myself and also to my family. I don't want to take the risk."

The cost to large enterprises like telecommunications firms or manufacturing concerns must be enormous, but we do not hear of direct threats to corporate executives or their families. However, in the countryside where the influence of communist insurgents is strongest, traders and vendors and entrepreneurs face immediate threats—to their families and to themselves. Thus the question they throw back at Ermita is hardly rhetorical: Can the Armed Forces and the police protect those who refuse to pay the NPA what is in effect protection money?

The truth is: Many of those who pay up are victims of a crime, in the exact same way the families of kidnap victims are themselves victims, too. But does the government prosecute a family for paying kidnappers to release a family member? Is paying ransom a crime in itself? In many cases, that is exactly what a revolutionary tax is: a ransom, paid at gunpoint.

To cut off the insurgency's money supply, the administration does not need to squeeze business; all it needs to do is ask the senators and congressmen of the administration coalition who campaigned in areas under communist influence. They doubtless paid permit-to-campaign fees (which are really a revolutionary tax imposed during election season). Ask **them** who the NPA's emissaries were.

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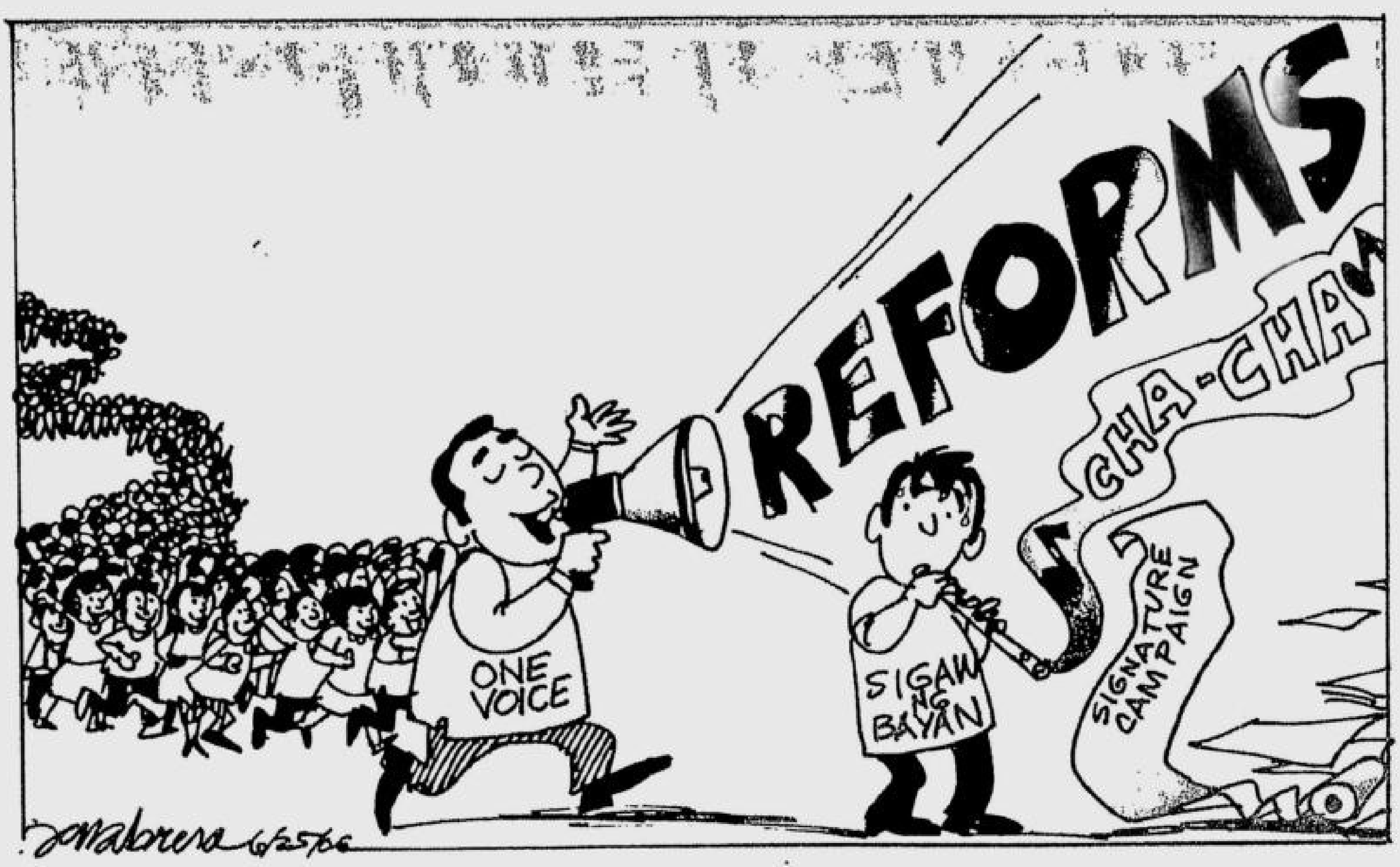

The singer, not the song

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

THE NOISY ADVOCATES OF THE CHA-CHA remind me of Nikita Khrushchev, who said: "Politicians are the same all over. They promise to build bridges even where there are no rivers."

He aptly described that special breed of rascals of which he was a prominent leader. He might as well have been speaking of the promoters of the Cha-cha with their own promises of bridges without rivers.

The barkers of the Cha-cha are led by no less than the top politician in the country, the so-called President of the Philippines. Her top lieutenant in their choreographed conspiracy is the Speaker of the House of Representatives, no mean politician either. Their active henchmen (and henchwomen, too, who are equally guilty) are the Cabinet members and the storm troopers of the Rainbow Coalition, also politicians all.

With one voice, they are beguiling the impressionable masses that the replacement of the present government with a parliamentary system will automatically solve all the problems of the country. They say that the root cause of all our difficulties is the presidential system (not their President), and their solution is its elimination through the Cha-cha.

The use of the initiative for the Cha-cha they propose is in my view unconstitutional, but that is another matter that will need a separate discussion. Right now, I will focus on the motive of its proponents for that is a serious flaw the people should be warned against.

If the Cha-cha is constitutionally sustained as a method for revising the Constitution (which I doubt), the parliamentary government it will establish will be run by its present active advocates. These will be the above-mentioned Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, Jose de Venecia, and their fawning cohorts.

Expectedly, they will claim the fruits of their victory by hogging the political offices in the new government. It will be a new government but still with the old officials now at the helm of the presidential system they are now scheming to replace. It will be like a person who has just taken a bath but is putting on the same dirty, stinking clothes again.

It is no secret that Ms Gloria is anxious to replace the present Constitution under which she is likely to be impeached again, this time successfully. With the new government in place, she hopes to remain in Malacañang, either as still powerful or at least ceremonial President. She will certainly prefer the former status, but her former ally may have something to say about that.

De Venecia has a contrary ambition that will find him and his present boss at loggerheads. After all, he is now the Speaker of the Lower House and should logically also head the new Parliament. He should be no longer the obedient lackey of Ms Arroyo as he is now, but independent of her and in fact superior to her. In other words, he should be the head of new government, not his discredited predecessor.

I have yet to make a studied comparison of the presidential and parliamentary systems before I can choose between them. I know that the parliamentary form proposed by the Cha-cha backers has its own merits but I am not yet prepared to decide in its favor. My reservation at this time is that, given its advantages, it is nevertheless being backed by, to me, the wrong people.

My fear is that if it is adopted despite its constitutional infirmities, it will be infested by the same politicians now polluting the present presidential government.

I think the problem of the Filipino people is the choice not between the presidential and the parliamentary forms of government but of the officials who will run whichever of the two forms will prevail. Any system of government is as good, or as bad, as the people who will run it. I submit that the presidential government we now have is not per se inimical but is made so by the people who are running it. The parliamentary system cannot be any better if the people who will run it are the same incumbent officials in the current presidential system.

It's the singer, not the song.

My point is that whatever government we choose, whether it is democratic or monarchial or dictatorial or even theocratic, can be only as good or as bad as the officials who will be running it. That is why I refuse to be mesmerized by the simplistic and deceptive enticement that the establishment of the parliamentary system will automatically sanctify the government and convert this troubled land into an instant Utopia.

I hope our people will consider the proposed change of the Constitution more seriously instead of being stampeded into rash judgments based on false inducements offered by supposed leaders piously invoking the public welfare to conceal their own selfish agenda. Let's not tinker with the Constitution unless we are convinced of the urgent need to make it, as Justice Cardozo would put it, "ready for the morrow."

N.B. I am happy to report that Mrs. Emma Quisumbing Fernando, widow of former Chief Justice Enrique M. Fernando, wrote to inform me that her husband was also a graduate of the Araullo High School and was president and valedictorian of his class in 1932.

Assurance

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

THE STORY IS TOLD ABOUT DAN TORRES from Bicol who was so afraid and nervous because of his illegal alien status in the United States. When told by the guy at a gas station to "pay first," he thought he was being asked to produce his papers. When asked if he had a Mastercard or a Visa credit card, he got nervous all the more, thinking that the guy was asking for his visa. When asked whether he was a tourist, he got scared thinking that the guy knew his name was Torres. And when the guy told him to "be cool," he fainted in fear because he thought the guy even knew that he was from Bicol!

* * *

In today's Gospel (Mk. 4, 35-44) Jesus tells His disciples who are in panic: "Quiet now. Be calm." We all need to listen to Jesus' words as we go about our day-to-day lives and concerns, and as we face many problems, fears and uncertainties in our country and in the world. It is so comforting to know that there is someone in charge, and that this someone cares for each one of us.

* * *

Jesus also tells us today: "Why are you so frightened?" All of us have fears, real or imagined. Jesus does not question our fears. What he questions is why we are so fearful. He invites each one of us to learn not to magnify our fears but to learn to magnify our faith in God instead. He offers His hands to us so that we fear less, and trust more.

* * *

We all need assurance so that we can calm or overcome our fears. Faith has been such a blessed assurance in my life, and I am grateful to my parents who instilled this faith in me since youth. I am also grateful to the countless people who helped nurture this faith, and to the countless others who simply share this same faith—and that in itself is very assuring.

* * *

Are you an assuring person? Do weary and troubled people find rest and respite in you? Thank God for people who have helped us in our earthly journey with their warm presence as well as with their encouraging and enlightening words, and with their encouraging deeds. I remember in particular my confessor, the late Fr. Robert Winkler, SVD, who always ended his confession advise with the words: "All will be well again. Go in peace." Never underestimate the power of assuring words. They do work wonders for the soul, literally.

* * *

It may be a very simple thing. But the rosary has been such an assuring presence in my life. I have always carried a rosary in my left pocket since I was taught to do so by Mama when I was a child. It has been a constant companion in my travels and a real consolation especially in times of sickness, loneliness and trials. Somehow the night isn't that dark, the journey isn't that long, the pain isn't that deep, with a rosary in hand.

* * *

Some people spend a whole lifetime, seeking assurance from worldly wealth, power and possessions. And so it is that there are people who are so miserably insecure in spite of so much riches in their hands. That's because they don't have goodness and God in their hearts. Be good, have God, then you will have peace in your heart and assurance from above.

* * *

Again, it may be a very simple thing, but I call my Mama every day. A one-minute or two-minute phone call means so much to my 84-year-old Mama. It gives her happiness and assurance to know that she is not forgotten and that she is loved. Sometimes we have to really take time to let our loved ones know that we are there, and that we really care. Are there people in your life who need your assurance? Why don't you do some assuring right now?

* * *

Leaders must not only assure us, but must truthfully assure us. I remember an anecdote about a man who assured his friend, who was so scared of a barking dog, with the words from Confucius—that barking dogs don't bite. In reply, his scared friend said: "Yes, Confucius knows that, you and I know that, but, does the dog know that?"

* * *

Wanted: A new voice in our country that will tell us the real situation we are in, and the possible directions we are facing. Equally wanted is the spirit among us Filipinos to have the confidence and courage that we can, and that we will overcome. Our leaders need to truthfully assure us, we need to positively assure each other and we all need to hold on and trust in God.

* * *

June 27 is the Feast of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. How assuring to know that we have a mother whose help for us is not only sure but also constant, unconditional and perpetual.

* * *

June 29 is the Feast of Saints Peter and Paul, two great apostles of the Church. Peter reminds us that we should be deeply rooted, while Paul reminds us that we must not be afraid to fly. What we need in life are roots and wings and the assurance from on high.

* * *

With great joy, we welcome the news that Fr. Antonio Pernia, SVD from Tagbilaran, Bohol has been re-elected as Superior General of the Society of the Divine Word (SVD) in Rome. What an assurance for all of us 6,000 members all over the world! Praise God and thank you, Mama Mary!

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, You are our greatest assurance, and love is our greatest insurance in life. Amen.

Remembering the Korean War

MY FIRST AWARENESS OF A PLACE CALLED Korea was in high school. That was Sunday morning in June 1950 when I heard on radio that North Korea had invaded its southern neighbor known as the Republic of Korea (ROK). With bugles and trumpets blowing, as in cavalry charges in the olden days, People's Army (PA) infantrymen from the north crossed the 38th Parallel, the dividing line between the two Koreas, and headed for Seoul, capital of South Korea.

In response to a call from the United Nations for assistance in a "police action" against North Korea, the Philippines sent one of its few existing battalion combat teams (BCTs). The armed forces then had only 10 battalions and the 10th BCT was our only trained armored unit. In a rousing send-off at the Rizal Memorial Stadium in August 1950, President Elpidio Quirino, before a crowd of more than 50,000, exhorted the troops to do their best. "You are the first to carry the flag of our sovereign nation abroad in this war for freedom .... Every peso invested in you is a sound investment for the perpetuation of our liberty and freedom." He then turned over the Philippine flag to the battalion commander, Col. Mariano Azurin. Gen. Carlos P. Romulo who was then president of the UN General Assembly, the first Asian ever elected to that prestigious post, then took his turn in presenting the UN flag to Colonel Azurin.

The 10th BCT—1,370 strong—left Manila in September 1950 on board the US naval transport Silvester Antolack, and landed at Pusan where President Syngman Rhee, along with members of his Cabinet and officers of the US Eighth Army, welcomed them.

Attached to the US 25th Infantry Division, the 10th BCT was immediately thrown into action. Barely a month after arrival, the unit suffered its first casualty. Private Alipio S. Secilliano of Libon, Albay was killed by snipers in a pre-dawn patrol while approaching the Naktong River. He was the first Filipino soldier fighting under the flag of an independent Philippine Republic to die in combat abroad for the freedom and liberty of another country.

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

As the harsh Korean winter approached, with cold winds and temperatures registering as low as 20 degrees below zero, internal problems started to plague the unit. Appropriate winter clothing was a major requirement, and so Colonel Azurin raised the issue with the high command. For some strange reason—and I say strange because the logical reaction would have simply been to provide the needed clothing—a decision was made to disband the battalion and attach its companies to different units. Naturally, like any commander, Colonel Azurin wanted to keep the battalion intact and he attempted to have the orders revoked. Instead, he was relieved of command and his executive officer, Col. Gamaliel Manikan, was designated as his temporary replacement.

Colonel Azurin of Vigan, Ilocos Sur was one of our few officers who graduated from the Armored School at Fort Knox, Kentucky. He was a quiet, hardworking individual known for a solicitous and caring attitude toward his men. The cloud from his Korean stint continued to linger over his career and he never made it to the rank of general. His permanent replacement was Col. Dionisio Ojeda who went on to carve out a distinguished career in the armed forces, and later served in Congress.

The most dramatic engagement of Filipino troops in the Korean War was the battle of Yultong Bridge on April 22-23, 1951. Capt. Conrado Yap, commander of a tank company, and one of his junior officers, Lt. Jose Artiaga Jr., along with 41 enlisted personnel, perished in action against the enemy who suffered heavy casualties—about 600. Captain Yap was awarded the Medal of Valor, the highest honor our nation can bestow, while Lieutenant Artiaga won the Distinguished Conduct Star (DCS) for "conspicuous gallantry and courage in the face of overwhelming enemy forces at Yultong."

As a young boy reading about their exploits and heroic actions, I felt so proud of our soldiers and saddened by the casualties. A few months later, without much thought, I took the entrance exams for the Philippine Military Academy. Looking back now, it was the first of many steps toward a career in government both in the military and civilian sectors.

* * *

The following line from Korea's national anthem perhaps reflects the almost mystical bond which binds the Korean people to their land: "Let us love, come grief, come gladness, this our beloved Land." And indeed, Korea is a land which has known so much grief, a land which has experienced so much suffering under a brutal colonial rule, and remains divided in a conflict whose solution remains a national dream.

The Berlin Wall which once was the universal symbol of the Cold War is now a thing of the past, its stones broken up and sold as souvenirs and reminders of a struggle which at one time threatened to destroy our planet. The 17th Parallel no longer divides Vietnam and will be a mere footnote in our history books.

The last and possibly the most enduring symbol of an ideological conflict involving communism and the free world is a small village located some 56 kilometers from Seoul, just below the 38th Parallel. The village is named Panmunjom. It is the village where, after more than two years, 575 major meetings and 18 million recorded words, the Korean Armistice Agreement was signed, with Generals William Harrison and Nam Il initialing the documents for the United Nations and North Korea, respectively.

LBM and medical confidentiality

I NEVER THOUGHT I'D EVER FEEL SORRY FOR the President, but I did Friday, watching the news reports on her sudden confinement at St. Luke's Medical Center.

It wasn't so much the President's reported ailment that won my sympathies, since it was a rather common illness. But the way it was reported seemed a trifle embarrassing—for her. All of us would consider bowel movements, perhaps, the most private and personal of matters, much more private than sex. How would we feel if our toilet habits were discussed in public, in the same strident tones used for heinous crimes or bloody accidents?

It didn't help that the TV newscasts were in Filipino, and that reporters didn't seem to know how to put a, uhhmm, polite spin on the President's illness. ("*Pagdudumi*" is preferable, I would think, to "*pagtatae*.") Sometime in the middle of the report, the reporter resorted to a euphemism, "LBM" (for loose bowel movement), but even this summoned not-so-pleasant mental images.

Still, the coverage of the President's state of elimination was in fact justifiable and defensible. This was the President we were talking about, after all—not just Citizen Juana. And the public had every right to know every bit about her state of health, to know if she was physically and mentally fit to discharge her duties, including making the right decisions in the right frame of mind. (I know, there are snide remarks we can make about this last bit, but let's not get into that!)

* * *

AT THIS time, all we can do is take the word of the President's doctors and advisers. If they say her abdominal pains and confinement were due to an attack of an intestinal virus brought on by stress and fatigue, barring evidence to the contrary, we'll just have to accept it.

But it would be apropos to mention here that recent political history gives us cause to approach the verdict with caution. Ferdinand Marcos, to give one example, insisted for the larger part of a decade that there was nothing wrong with him. He even went to the extent of posing before Gina Lollobrigida's camera and water-skiing with his pectoral muscles in full display. When blood was spotted on the sleeve of his *barong* in one public event, the late dictator explained it away as a "*sarsaparilla stain.*" Young Filipinos, who had never encountered *sarsaparilla*, greeted the explanation with puzzlement, until their elders explained that it used to be a popular drink colored red.

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

Filipinos found out the whole truth only at the close of the Edsa Revolt, when the doors to Malacañang Palace were opened to the public, revealing a small hospital within, with a dialysis machine and padded toilet seats serving as evidence of Marcos' years-long battle with lupus.

The object lesson here is that "truth will out," whether immediately or with time. A President and the people around him/her owe the public a full explanation, not least because any lies or deceptions will eventually come to light and cause official embarrassment in the long run.

* * *

STILL, the President's hospital stay is as good a reason as any to explore the issue of medical confidentiality, which is enshrined in the Hippocratic Oath and various Medical Codes of Ethics; and has even been encoded in law.

Fans of the medical drama "House" might recall how the crusty eccentric Dr. House scolded patients and their families time and again for concealing important information from him and his team, information which proved crucial to finding out the cause of the mystifying illness and the right cure, in time to save the patient. Doctors need full and vital information to be able to address a health problem, including one's genetic background and even the health history of one's ancestors. But patients also need and deserve their privacy, to be assured that whatever information they share with their doctors, or is gathered from various tests, will remain concealed and disclosed only to authorized persons and only for a good reason.

As Rind et al., writing in a medical journal assert, "tradeoffs between access and confidentiality must generally be made." There is no such thing as "perfect access" and "perfect confidentiality," they write, with the health community and their clients and patients in a constant tug-of-war between the urgency to share health information and the right to keep health information private.

* * *

WE can call to mind many cases where confidentiality has been breached. Recall the sensational case of an outspoken TV host who revealed that an ex-lover had given her a sexually transmitted infection. Instantly, the details of this STI and the treatment she received were racing through the Internet. The culprit turned out to be information technology, with her record as well as that of all the hospital's patients logged into a central computer. Any employee in the hospital with the password to the data base could, and did, access and replicate her file.

People living with HIV/AIDS also have countless stories of how health personnel routinely violate their privacy—from loudly announcing the results of HIV tests in crowded hospitals, to sharing the test results with employers who invariably fire their HIV-positive employees.

A local law already prescribes confidentiality for PLWHAs and penalizes medical and law enforcement personnel who violate this right. But, perhaps, what's needed is a broader law that guarantees confidentiality for all, regardless of the illness. In the United States, the HIPAA or "Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act" of 1996, for instance, "protects people from having their medical histories accessed or made public without their permission."

Unless you're a public official, you have the right to keep your illness secret, even if it's just LBM.

The latest 'nation moment'

I HEARD THE PHRASE "NATION MOMENT" from Therese Badoy of Rock Ed Philippines, a young volunteer group working for a sense of country and a more nation-involved generation, through music, art and rock-and-roll culture. What does the phrase mean? It's like an epiphany, a "shock of discovery," that, hey, I'm a Filipino and proud of it!

Therese's "moment" came as she watched Ninoy's funeral with Ninoy's coffin on a truck, with a guy waving the Filipino flag. Mine came on that same funeral as it inched down South Superhighway. Therese was 11; I was at the mid-century of my life—which goes to show that a "nation moment," like a descent of the Holy Spirit or a "conversion experience," can come at any time to anyone.

Leo Oracion, Erwin Emata and Romi Garduce, in swift succession on May 17, 18, 19, triggered the latest "nation moment" when they literally lifted the Filipino to the top of the world in an electric and exultant event that enveloped us as one. How we felt for them on the long watch up and down Everest: Base Camp, Camp 2, Camp 3, Camp 4. How we worried about the buffeting winds, the snow, the thin air, their oxygen supply. And when they made it, we seized the moment and cried, "*Mabuhay ang Pilipino!*" What's more, we claimed the feat as ours, too. Said a driver, "I feel like I've been on the summit."

What stirring words Oracion uttered as he planted the Filipino flag, "The Philippine eagle has landed." How respectful of nature was Emata when he was grateful that "the mountain was forgiving and accepted us." And how classically Pinoy was Garduce when he exalted, "*Pare, nasa* summit *na ako!*"

I have almost no feelings for sports, but there I was mountain climbing vicariously. Boxing to me seems almost brutish, but there I was watching replay upon replay of Manny Pacquiao's winning moments—surely a "Pacquiao moment." And some months back, there were those flag-waving Sea Games commercials with the do-or-die line, "*Basta Pinoy—posible!*"

COMMENTARY

Asuncion David Maramba

"*Gutom,*" said a young woman about our country so starved for heroes that sports feats create such towering pride, and we feel a catch in the throat and a swelling of our hearts.

Isn't it pathetic that almost all our leaders, including the President, are incapable of raising national pride, incapable of igniting even a spark of a "nation moment"? Name one who can say with Garduce, "it's inspiring to inspire." Instead, so uninspiring are most of them that they must ride on the feats of those who inspire. There is extreme drought in the public landscape; the ground is cracking.

The message of our "mighty horizon-chasers," as Sen. Richard Gordon described them—the message of unity, sacrifice and continued training for excellence and fitness—seems alien to our leaders. Unity—what's that? Sacrifice—what's that! Fitness and excellence—*mag-artista ka muna.*

Oracion and Emata "split" so that one of the team would be sure to reach the summit, with Emata letting Oracion go first. Emata, almost symbolically, "waited for the sun to rise." Garduce said he was not out on a race. He said this like a refrain: they "did this for the Filipino, and to show and deliver the message that we can do it if we unite. We can do the impossible if we unite and help each other."

But we can't depend only on "nation moments" even if some dig deep. Since Edsa, we have known how fast euphoria evaporates. The moments must be sustained. We need heroes of the enduring kind, with direct bearing on nation-building. Let me paraphrase from my preface for "Mga Bagong Bayani" of Anvil Publishing:

Our youth need heroes badly for at least five reasons. First, they have no role models, with movie stars and starlets and TV personalities ranking high as most influential and perpetually seen. Second, they need heroes in this climate of overpowering disenchantment, with their elders and even contemporaries in public service, the most visible class of people, neck and neck with movie stars. They must be shown that even in this abundant harvest of grafters and corruptors, there still are genuine heroes.

Third, our youth need heroes closer to their time who carry the torch from Rizal to their era; heroes that must now figure in their studies and daily life and gain visibility in books, plays and tri-media. Fourth, all of us need heroes to remind us of our history which we forget so early; of a nobility that resides in this our so-called damaged culture; to resurrect battered-to-death values in public service; to inspire when so little inspires.

Finally, we all need heroes because many of our youth who want to be American, Japanese or Saudi Arabian, and many of our elders who slice the country up into fiefdoms of excessive personal wealth and power, need a sense of nationhood and national pride.

Without heroes, no country can become a nation.

"No more excuses, Philippines," is the campaign slogan of Rock Ed Philippines. Now, here's a young group that inspires.

Asuncion David Maramba is a retired professor, book editor and occasional journalist. Comments to marda_ph@yahoo.com ; fax 8210659.

Killing Godzilla

THE FIRE TREES ARE IN FULL FLOWER, ALL RED AND orange and bright blazing brilliance, indulging in—as a friend says with some wistfulness—a week-long orgasm. And while I wax romantic at the blossoms that carpet the streets, my computer screen still insists on staying an anemic white.

"There's really nothing to writing," Walter Smith once said. "All you do is sit down at a typewriter and open a vein."

I'm beginning to think I need a transfusion.

REBEL WITHOUT A CLUE

Patricia Evangelista

For me, there's nothing more intimidating than the sight of an empty sheet of paper. My friend Andrea calls it the glare of the blank page. And it's worse with a computer—I'm not even allowed the momentary thrill of tearing off a half-written sheet of paper, crumpling it gleefully and hurling it to the floor. At least, sitting surrounded by a mess of rejected material, I can pretend I've done some work. Woe to the man who invented the backspace key.

Sometimes, when I have nothing to say or when what I write sounds like tripe run over twice, I sit down and wonder why I didn't get an 8-5 job that meant air-conditioning and a definite paycheck. My entire writing philosophy can be summarized in the words of Peter De Vries—I love writing. I just hate the paperwork.

On Sundays, at 3 a.m., when there's no sound other than the whirring of my dusty electric fan, and no light except for the glow from the street lamp across my apartment, I stare at the ceiling and hope that the presses have stalled or that my column has mysteriously disappeared. In the morning, when the inevitable comes, I peel open the page to my column with the niggling fear that this is it, they'll find me out, they'll realize that it's all a scam and I really cannot write. Then I carefully switch off my phone—they can't fire me if they can't reach me.

It's not the criticism that scares me. I love criticism, really—for as long as it's outright praise. Ask any writer what they feel about critics, and it's the same as asking a public toilet how it feels about humanity.

There are writers who claim that inversion—to stand on one's head—is the proper way to deal with writer's block. Then there are the varying suggestions of going on silent retreat, taking a walk, investing in earplugs and reading good writing by good writers. So I would stand on my head, walk around my apartment, shove earphones in my ears and read Shakespeare. At the moment, however, I have nothing to show for my efforts other than a bruise the size of an egg, ringing eardrums and a tendency to shriek "Forsooth!" at passing tricycles.

Other writers suggest diet supplements such as phenylalanine, along with herbal extract *gingko biloba*, for mental nutrition. As I have no access to *gingko biloba* and phenylalanine, I have contented myself with practicing their pronunciation.

Some writers insist that it is atmosphere that allows the words to flow. "Set up your writing space for optimal performance." So I spent hours folding shirts according to color gradient, matching long-lost pairs of socks and organizing romance novels by subject (girl-falls-for-best-friend right after girl-falls-for-bad-boy). Unfortunately, I found myself on the floor with a Mills & Boon romance, lost in the quandary of whether or not the pale and perfect Katia—chaste as a moon goddess—would put up with the masterful ways of tall, dark and heartless Thorn.

Recently, I thought I found the foolproof solution to writer's block. It's called the ugly notebook. My current one is worth all of P16.75, a 90-page Grade-4 level composition notebook, with Batman and Wonderwoman lunging at super villains on the cover.

Once, in McDonald's, I whipped out my notebook in front of my friend Neeks, the Empress of the Obsessive Compulsive. She shrank back from the table. I thought she was going to shriek righteous indignation at the fact I was copying down her words and possibly plagiarizing her life. Her wrath was directed at my treatment of the notebook—words upside-down, slanted, written from back page on—a flurry of quotations, impressions, song lyrics and spaghetti stains, Milan Kundera happily scrawled beside Kris Aquino sound bites.

My explanation is that pretty notebooks, expensive notebooks with thick paper, colored dividers and beautiful covers demand some sort of quality to the writing, and deter writing itself. I have a dozen notebooks I've bought through the years and never touched—what exactly can I write that would be worthy of a leather-bound, gold-edged journal?

The ugly notebook is different. I can write anything I want without a concept, without logic or relevance or structure or sense; italicize anything I want; put! exclamation! points! anywhere I feel like; and write without agonizing over word count, audience and political correctness. And there, I can commit the most criminal sin of all—the cliché. I can be happy as a clam.

Last Friday, I left my ugly notebook inside my huge tote bag. Yesterday morning, in search of a column idea, a concept, anything in fact, I reached into my bag for my notebook. It was damp, with a telltale pungent smell that had me running to the bathroom to dump the notebook in a basin of water. Right now it's drying under the electric fan, filling my living room with the sickly sour smell of the cat's opinion of my writing and my own frustration.

The reasons for writer's block are many and varied. One school of thought is that the inability to write may be a symptom of depression—"If you're having trouble motivating yourself to write, it may be that your writer's block is a product of a deeper problem." At the same time, it is conceded that many distinguished artists "have been chronic sufferers from depression" and have used their depression to write the great classics of literature.

I am at a point where I'm getting depressed, trying to decide whether or not I should get depressed.

A professional writer, I'm told, never gets writer's block. At the moment, I feel like Godzilla is sitting between the computer screen and me. I have nothing to write, and feel, as Emerson did, as if the ancients have stolen all my best ideas.

So I sit here for five hours every day, waiting for ideas while staring at a white screen. The ideas rarely come, but this I swear: If an idea comes flying by in those five hours, by God, I'll be ready.

* * *

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WAR ON COMMUNIST REBELS

Endgame or queen's gambit?

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL-ARROYO WANTS TO ACCOMPLISH what her four predecessors failed to achieve: Crush the communist insurgency.

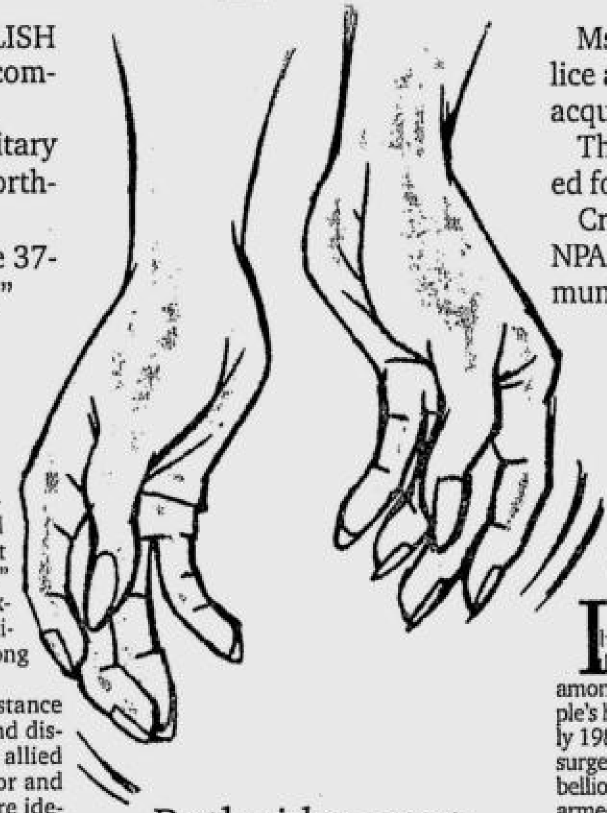
She wants the Communist Party of the Philippines and its military arm, the New People's Army, defeated in one to two years in Northern, Central and Southern Luzon.

The defense department has a longer timetable. It expects the 37-year-old communist insurgency "resolved within six to 10 years."

Ms Arroyo is setting aside P1 billion to give the military and the police a "decisive edge" over NPA guerrillas. The money will be used to acquire hardware like helicopters.

The amount is on top of the P5 billion the government has allocated for the modernization of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

Critics claim that Ms Arroyo's "end-game" strategy against the CPP-NPA is nothing but a ploy to keep the military busy fighting the communist rebels. Sections of the military had hatched plots to oust her.



Both sides must undergo paradigm shifts favoring constructive actions that affirm human rights and humanitarian norms

Military victory illusory

By Miriam Coronel Ferrer

IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE THAT THE current government, police and the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) will succeed where their predecessors in the last 30 years failed: Quash the communist insurgency, and decisively erode its foothold in our society.

There is, after all, nothing new in government's current strategy. Buy more arms, bring in the troops, clear and consolidate affected communities, scuttle members through widespread summary executions, and clean up the mess with civic works and development showcases.

Marcos did all these. Today, as in the latter half of the Marcos regime, no major war is being waged against the Moro rebels. Government can deploy the bulk of its army to fight the communists. Marcos, too, had the advantage of US support. Moreover, he had stronger command over the armed forces. Yet, he failed to lick the insurgency in 14 years of monopoly on power.

Similar "comprehensive" approaches after Marcos never got close to clinching victory. The civilian arm never did well in delivering the governance side of the equation. The military component was shackled by its poor image, and the weight of its corrupt and fractured organization.

The AFP has remained much like the AFP described by Victor Corpus in his 1989 book, the "Silent War"—a top-heavy politicized organization whose troops lack rigorous training, maneuverability, discipline and a "mass approach." Worse, it has developed a taste for power that emboldens it to transcend the bounds of law with impunity.

CPP's fall and rise

The Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army (CPP-NPA) suffered severe setbacks from 1987 to about 1995. But this decline was caused more by internal differences, leadership misjudgments, strategy debates and loss of compass that accompanied the abrupt shift from dictatorship to formal democracy. The reversal was only partly due to the arrest of leading party cadres and the rise of vigilante groups that sowed terror in rural communities under Oplan Lambat Bitag.

Since then, the CPP-NPA has gradually expanded. Guerilla zones have been reestablished in previous mountain holdouts. New fronts were opened in places like Bohol and Masbate.

Many allied legal organizations dissociated from the CPP but those that maintained ties flourished. This unarmed political network provides the passionate warm bodies ready to hit the streets in mass protests or to trek the electoral campaign trail. The youth in the universities, dismayed by the state of the nation and its leaders, remain a deep pool of motivated and idealistic cadres. A corps of sympathetic lawyers, doctors and other professionals may not totally embrace the ideology but their heart still feels for the cause that was fought for in the 1970s.

Feeding insurgency

The insurgency persists despite its old slogans and orthodox Maoist strategy. What is feeding this phenomenon?

Poverty is usually made to explain why the armed conflict began and persists. But as the 2005 Philippine Human Development Report showed, the poorest municipalities or barangays are not always the site of intense conflict. Felt injustice and human rights violations that accompany militarization and development projects appear to more directly push people to take up arms. We already learned this during martial law. Repressive measures and abuses committed by government agents, and displacement due to government-backed development projects drove people to the hills. Government, in effect, has been the best recruiter for the NPA.

The CPP-NPA in turn has acted as the state in areas where government is not felt. It dispenses justice, imposes taxes, holds literacy classes and provides health care.

These acts are resented by those who bear the brunt of the CPP-NPA's penal laws, especially the death penalty. The CPP-NPA has also not been averse to partnerships with local landlords and politicians. The travails of the farmers in the Bondoc peninsula recently reported in newspapers show how farmers can be denied their right to the land by the unholy alliance of the armed left and the armed landlord.

In other parts, the CPP-NPA has helped secure justice for those victimized by cattle rustlers, rapists, the abrasive police or soldier, and the local rich and powerful. Its armed force enables it to punish "enemies of the people," legislate, police the community, extract resources and compel compliance, functions that otherwise belong to the state, if it were there.

Moreover, despite its hard line stance on the primacy of armed struggle and disdain for "reformist" initiatives, allied forces are at home in the NGO sector and the parliamentary arena. Its hardcore ideology is actually overridden by the pragmatism of its enterprising activists.

No winners

Although growing, for the CPP-NPA to seize political power is equally unlikely. Domestic and international factors do not work in favor of revolutionary takeovers similar to those that marked the last century. Changing social classes and demography brought about by the market economy and migration undermine the CPP's agrarian bias. If guerilla warfare is hard for the AFP to track down, the uneven development of insurgent base areas makes sustaining a nationwide guerilla movement difficult.

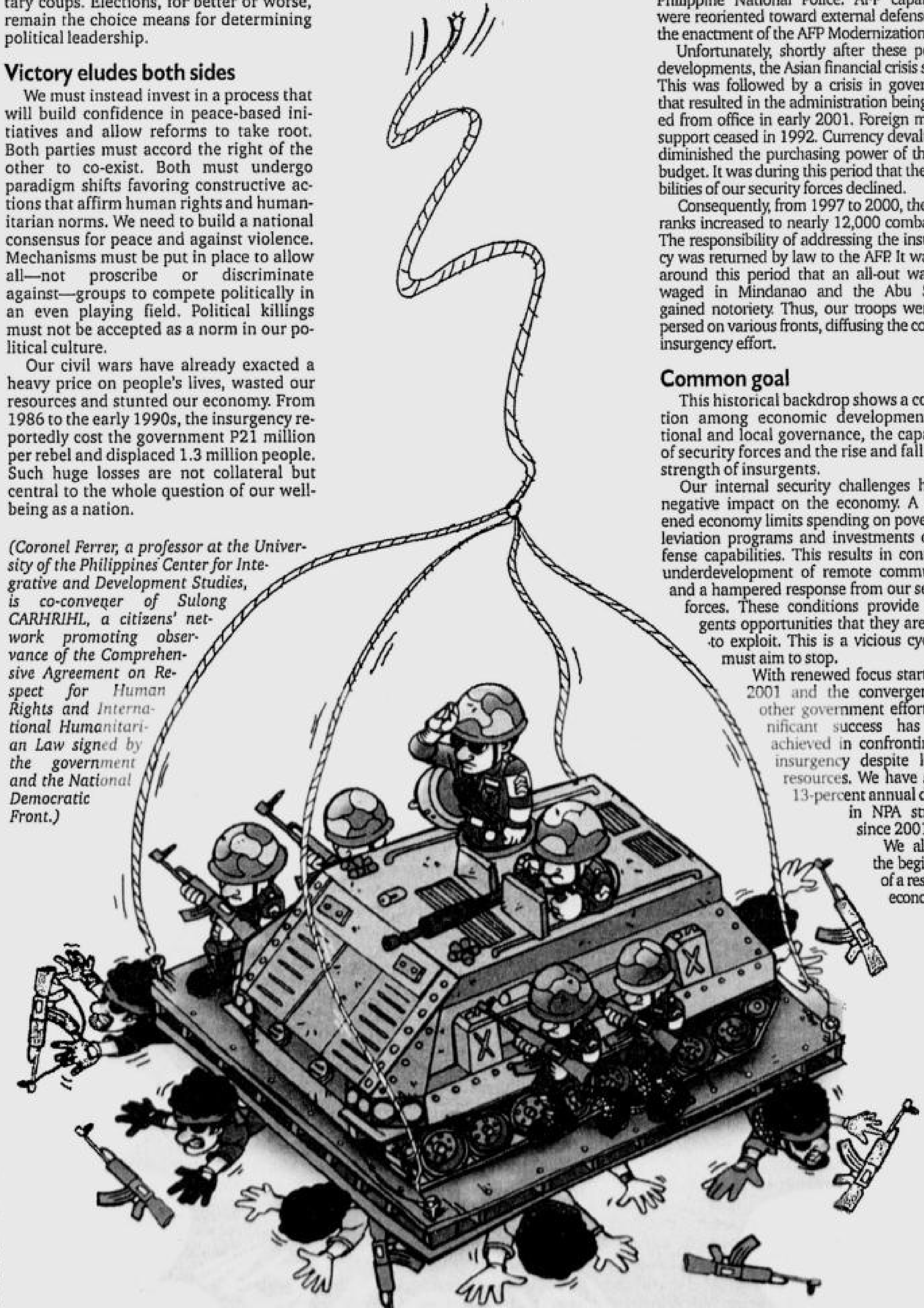
Moreover, the general public has been proven to prefer nonviolent means to achieve social and political change. That is why there is also no wide support for military coups. Elections, for better or worse, remain the choice means for determining political leadership.

Victory eludes both sides

We must instead invest in a process that will build confidence in peace-based initiatives and allow reforms to take root. Both parties must accord the right of the other to co-exist. Both must undergo paradigm shifts favoring constructive actions that affirm human rights and humanitarian norms. We need to build a national consensus for peace and against violence. Mechanisms must be put in place to allow all—not proscribe or discriminate against—groups to compete politically in an even playing field. Political killings must not be accepted as a norm in our political culture.

Our civil wars have already exacted a heavy price on people's lives, wasted our resources and stunted our economy. From 1986 to the early 1990s, the insurgency reportedly cost the government P21 million per rebel and displaced 1.3 million people. Such huge losses are not collateral but central to the whole question of our well-being as a nation.

(Coronel Ferrer, a professor at the University of the Philippines Center for Integrative and Development Studies, is co-convener of Sulong CARHRIHL, a citizens' network promoting observance of the Comprehensive Agreement on Respect for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law signed by the government and the National Democratic Front.)



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Working together to achieve common goal

By Avelino J. Cruz, Jr.

IT HAS BEEN DONE BEFORE; IT CAN be done again. The martial law regime in the 1970s resulted in heightened militancy among sectors. An oil crisis added to the people's hardships. From this decade up to the early 1980s, we saw the rise of the communist insurgency and emergence of a secessionist rebellion in Mindanao. From less than 100 armed rebels in the late 1960s, the New People's Army (NPA) reached its peak of nearly 26,000 combatants after the assassination of Ninoy Aquino and until authoritarian rule was ousted in 1986. This occurred despite a military organization that was adequately equipped and sufficiently motivated.

The restoration of democracy helped weaken the NPA. Dissension in its ranks led to factionalism. Some factions concluded peace agreements with the government. Former rebels returned to the fold of the law. Some even sought public office in free elections. In Mindanao, the Moro National Liberation Front concluded a peace agreement with the government in 1996.

By 1997, there were less than 5,000 NPA rebels, a drop of nearly 80 percent. The insurgents were reduced to small armed groups engaged in extortion and banditry. The responsibility of addressing the insurgency was then transferred by law from the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) to the newly formed Philippine National Police. AFP capabilities were reoriented toward external defense with the enactment of the AFP Modernization Act.

Unfortunately, shortly after these positive developments, the Asian financial crisis struck. This was followed by a crisis in governance that resulted in the administration being ousted from office in early 2001. Foreign military support ceased in 1992. Currency devaluation diminished the purchasing power of the AFP budget. It was during this period that the capabilities of our security forces declined.

Consequently, from 1997 to 2000, the NPA's ranks increased to nearly 12,000 combatants. The responsibility of addressing the insurgency was returned by law to the AFP. It was also around this period that an all-out war was waged in Mindanao and the Abu Sayyaf gained notoriety. Thus, our troops were dispersed on various fronts, diffusing the counter-insurgency effort.

Common goal

This historical backdrop shows a correlation among economic development, national and local governance, the capability of security forces and the rise and fall of the strength of insurgents.

Our internal security challenges have a negative impact on the economy. A weakened economy limits spending on poverty alleviation programs and investments on defense capabilities. This results in continued underdevelopment of remote communities and a hampered response from our security forces. These conditions provide insurgents opportunities that they are quick to exploit. This is a vicious cycle we must aim to stop.

With renewed focus starting in 2001 and the convergence of other government efforts, significant success has been achieved in confronting the insurgency despite limited resources. We have seen a 13-percent annual decline in NPA strength since 2001.

We also see the beginnings of a resurgent economy. A crucial factor that contributed to these positive developments was the ability of our defense and military establishment to remain committed to its mandate.

For the security situation to improve, some fruits of our economic recovery must be invested in the security sector. The investments will pay lasting dividends. As defenders of the social order, our soldiers realize the heavy responsibility on their shoulders. We must all continue to elevate our standard of conduct and our level of professional expertise.

Defense reform program

We are now implementing the Philippine Defense Reform (PDR) program that provides the framework for comprehensive and institutional improvements in key areas. We are now re-engineering our systems and re-tooling our personnel. Through the PDR, we are transforming our institutions while performing our mission. With this effort, we are now seeing the emergence of a more professional AFP.

We are also investing in our defense capabilities. A focal point of our roadmap is the implementation of the AFP Capability Upgrade Plan (AFP-CUP). For the first six years, we are focused on regaining lost capabilities in key areas such as mobility, firepower, communications, force protection and combat life-support. We have already funded the acquisition this year of mission-essential equipment for our soldiers in the frontlines.

Our Battalion Upgrade Program is the central component of the AFP-CUP. We will adequately man, equip and train 12 Infantry battalions and 2 Marine battalions every year for a total of 84 battalions in 6 years. The new equipment and training will give our soldiers a decisive advantage over the enemy.

Draining the pond

The AFP is not only capable of winning the war; it is also capable of winning the peace. We shall continue our efforts to address the issues exploited by the insurgents.

Insurgents promote conflict to block development and further spawn poverty. Insurgents exploit grievances created by these conditions to recruit adherents or secure safe havens. This symbiotic relationship must be stopped. Together, we must drain the pond of poverty and injustice that breeds terrorism and insurgency.

We shall continue to win hearts and minds with the implementation this year of the Kalayaan Barangays program by the AFP Corps of Engineers to complement other efforts. We will provide electricity, potable water, access roads, schoolhouses, medical facilities and livelihood opportunities to around 500 barangays each year. With this and other government programs, we will present development as an alternative to violence, which is all that terrorists and insurgents have to offer.

Taking care of troops

With the help of the private sector, we have begun establishing a forward field medical support system to boost the survival rate and combat confidence of our troops. We are acquiring force protection equipment, combat lifesaver kits and air ambulance kits for medical evacuation, among other essential life-saving equipment.

In partnership with Gawad Kalinga, we are building homes for our soldiers and their families. The first Kawal Kalinga Village Off-Base Housing Project has risen in Camp Aquino, Tarlac that can accommodate 2,700 houses.

We will also dispose of 200 hectares in Fort Magsaysay, Nueva Ecija for soldiers' housing. Draft proclamations for the disposition of portions of 15 other military reservations all over the country are awaiting approval. This represents 750 hectares that will accommodate approximately 60,000 houses. A total of P1.5 billion has also been earmarked to support a program that will yield approximately 3,000 new on-base quarters.

Other efforts

The military alone cannot resolve the insurgency. We must all build upon and sustain our economic resurgence to create more jobs. Government must increase spending on social services and effective poverty alleviation programs. There must be continued improvements in governance and our courts must be capable of dispensing justice.

History has shown that communism represents a failed economic model. There is worldwide condemnation of terrorism and violence as a method of attaining political objectives. It must be made clear that any group that pursues its political objectives through the democratic process are not allowed to maintain an armed component.

If we sustain the positive momentum and take advantage of opportunities available now, there is reason to be optimistic that the insurgency can be resolved within 6 to 10 years.

This we must set as our common goal.

(Cruz is the defense secretary. This is an abridged version of the article he submitted to this section.)

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Palparan OKs watch of troop abuses

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—MAJ. GEN. JOVITO PALPARAN AND his critic, Bulacan Gov. Josefina de la Cruz, met on Friday night and agreed to "open lines" on issues involving the conduct and operations of soldiers in Bulacan's villages amid the government's heightened anti-insurgency campaign.

Palparan, commander of the Army's 7th Infantry Division, and De la Cruz met for two hours in Bulacan following disagreements over the military's operations in that province.

"We are one in the anti-insurgency campaign. I told [Palparan] I have been supporting that ever since. But I also told him this could not be solved by military solutions alone," De la Cruz told the INQUIRER on Saturday.

She said the approach should be a combination of social and economic programs.

The governor, who is cochair of the Central Luzon peace and order council, said she clarified her position that soldiers and officers must respect human rights at all times.

She raised this as she told Palparan of complaints involving some military officers and soldiers.

In at least nine incidents of killings in Bulacan from January to May this year, the human rights advocate Karapatan counted 14 victims who were activists, farmers and workers.

The Philippine National Police in the province tallied at least 18 victims of killings and abductions from March 2003 to May this year, none of which has been solved, regional police records in Camp Olivas showed.

In the meeting, Palparan denied that he or his soldiers were behind those violent incidents.

Col. Noel Clement, commander of the 56th Infantry Battalion based in Bulacan,was present in the meeting.

De la Cruz said she and provincial officials vowed to keep a close watch on human rights. She said it was the mandate of local officials to protect their constituents.

In the last three weeks, Palparan had moved about 500 of his troops in the urban centers of the neighboring provinces of Bulacan and Pampanga. At least 40 detachments have been set up in Malolos City and Bulacan, Obando, Hagonoy, Pandi and Sta. Maria towns.

"I admire [De la Cruz] for her openness and desire to assist each other," Palparan said.

He said he assured the governor that the military was not after civilians but armed rebels and activists involved in illegal activities such as extortion, recruitment, threats and killings.

He said he asked De la Cruz to stop engaging him in a "word war" in the media as it did not look good that officials in the military and local governments were disagreeing in public.

AVISO
BAWAL MAGLAOG
DIDI SA LUGAR
DAHIL
DELIKADO

THESE farmers continue to ignore this danger sign, which has been put up in a Casiguran village in Sorsogon near Mt. Bulusan. NINO JESUS ORBETA/PDI SOUTHERN LUZON BUREAU

Bulusan danger zone now a 'no-man's land'

JUBAN, SORSOGON—THE Provincial Disaster Coordinating Council (PDCC) has declared as "no man's land" the 4-km danger zone around Bulusan Volcano as part of its efforts to ensure the safety of the residents.

Gov. Raul Lee said after the tension-filled PDCC meeting yesterday that no one would be allowed now to venture into the danger zone even as the volcano has remained silent the past few days.

He said he would also request the provincial board to pass an ordinance banning the entry of the public into the area, except those authorized by the disaster council.

Some residents of Barangay Inlagadian in Casiguran town refused to leave their homes, saying it was still safe and that they could not just abandon their properties and their means of livelihood.

Director Arnel Capili of the Office of Civil Defense recommended to the governor to tap the police and the military in ensuring compliance to the entry ban.

Preparedness

Capili, who was present at the meeting which was marred by arguments, said the local disaster councils had amply addressed all the aspects of disaster preparation, saying things were still within the capability of both the MDCC and the PDCC.

Lee called the closed-door PDCC meeting to settle disagreements between the two mayors of Juban and Irosin, on one hand, and the mayor of Casiguran, on the other.

The Municipal Disaster Coordinating Council has started finalizing plans for the relocation of residents of barangays Puting-Sapa and Añog as part of the precautionary measures.

Guab-Fragata said they were heeding the advice of the PDCC and Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (Phivolcs) to temporarily relocate the residents to ensure their safety as danger remained high.

The Juban mayor said Puting-Sapa has 106 households composed of 503 individuals while Añog has 484 residents comprising 86 households.

The MDCC is now identifying possible areas for the relocation and listing down the necessities at the new site.

An executive of Phivolcs said the agency has to modify the hazard map of Mt. Bulusan. Ernesto Corpuz, chief science research specialist of Phivolcs, said on Friday that their geopositioning system validation using the baseline map from the National Mapping and Resource Information Authority (Namria) is intended to modify the existing hazard map which, he said, has to be updated every eruption.

On Thursday, Eduardo Laguerta (not Laguardia as earlier reported), coordinator for Bicol volcano monitoring, said in a phone interview that the Phivolcs was still validating information and location to come up with a specific hazard map of Mt. Bulusan.

Corpuz clarified that the geologists based in the Philvolcs office in Manila are the ones generating the hazard map after the data from the ground have been fed to them.

He said the Phivolcs modifies the map after each eruption based on the new materials deposited at the volcano's slopes.

He said the validation using the GPS is also intended to resolve issues concerning exact location of danger zone areas in a situation that some areas are outside the danger zone but are endangered by lahar flow.

He said the village of Cogon in Irosin is outside the danger zone but because of the gully that cut across the village they have to assess it again.

Debris

The deposited debris on the slopes were still to be computed, Corpuz said.

He said no significant number of volcanic tremors were recorded as of June 22. But the intermittent heavy rains that poured since June 19 here have shown the danger of an ash mud flow to the communities along the gullies.

Benjamin Gabiosa, Irosin municipal engineer, said the families in Cogon, one kilometer from the national road, were evacuated in the afternoon of June 20 after heavy rains when mud stream flow started to rumble down near the inhabited areas.

Gabiosa said 402 individuals, mostly women and children, were housed in the Gallanosa High School here because of the intermittent downpour. *Bobby Q. Labalan, Juan Escandor Jr. and Ephraim Aguilar, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

C. Visayas cops to give protection to traders

By Jhunnex Napallacan
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—THE POLICE IN CENTRAL Visayas assured it was prepared to give protection to businessmen and other personalities being subjected to extortion by the New People's Army (NPA).

Police Regional Office (PRO 7) director Chief Supt. Silverio Alarcio Jr. stressed it is part of their job to protect those under threat but he said they could not do anything if the victims of extortion refused to report or coordinate with the police.

Alarcio said the police already gave security to mining companies in other regions, which were threatened by the rebels.

In Central Visayas especially in Cebu, however, they have yet to receive any complaints from businessmen about the extortion activities of the rebels, Alarcio said.

It did not mean, however, that no extortion activities had been going on in the region. Alarcio said he could only presume that these businessmen did not report for fear something bad would happen to their businesses.

Jose Ng, regional vice president of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PCCI), dismissed the possibility that businessmen in Cebu were paying revolutionary taxes to the rebels.

Ng said PCCI had not received reports about that from their members.

"I would like to believe that there's no businessmen paying taxes to the NPA. We are very peaceful here and insurgency is not a major problem in Cebu," he said.

Ng stressed it is also the policy of the chamber not to pay revolutionary taxes to the NPA.

Police eye grudge, business rivalry in Subic shooting

By Allan Macatuno
PDI Central Luzon Desk

SUBIC BAY FREEPORT—POLICE ARE LOOKING at personal grudge and business rivalry as among the possible motives behind the killing of a businessman and his aide here on Friday night.

Insp. Lolito Tejada, police station B commander in nearby Olongapo City, said businessman Uldarico Tubig, 45, who was involved in the importation of used vehicles, was shot dead by one of five suspects at around 7 p.m. as he was about to board his car.

His security aide, Rommel Pineda, was also killed when he exchanged gunfire with the suspects who fled aboard a black car. Another security officer working for Tubig, identified as Don Garin, was wounded in the attack.

Jose Calimlim, Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority senior deputy administrator for operations, said Tubig was last seen talking to some people at about 5 p.m. in a restaurant in Olongapo City.

Quoting SBMA police investigators, Calimlim said Tubig went to his office at the Delki Auto Corp. along Boton Highway here at about 6 p.m. after an apparent transaction with some of his clients.

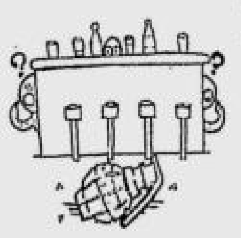
At around 7.p.m., five armed men approached Tubig and one of them shot him at close range.

"This was the first time that a businessman was killed inside the freeport zone," Calimlim said.

SPO4 Primo de Ocampo, technician of the Olongapo City crime laboratory, said they recovered 17 empty shells of M-16 rifle from the crime scene.

ROUNDUP

Grenade fails

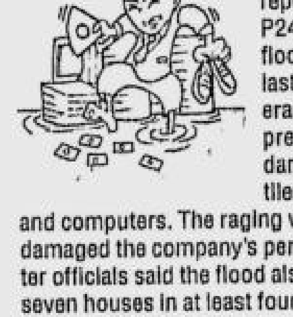


ZAMBOANGA CITY—An unidentified man lobbed a grenade into a bar in Barangay Kasulutan in Jolo, Sulu on Wednesday evening but it failed to explode. Capt. Jose Ritche Pabilonia, information officer of the military's Southern Command here, said the suspect was apparently targeting bar owner Edwin Alawi. On Tuesday, a grenade was also found at the roof of a house in Barangay San Raymundo in Jolo. Pabilonia said authorities could not yet determine if the incidents were related as investigation was still ongoing. On March 27, a powerful explosion rocked a store owned by the Sulu Consumers' Cooperative in downtown Jolo where five people were killed and 22 others injured. The Abu Sayyaf was blamed for the incident and other bomb attacks in Sulu. *Julie S. Alipala, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

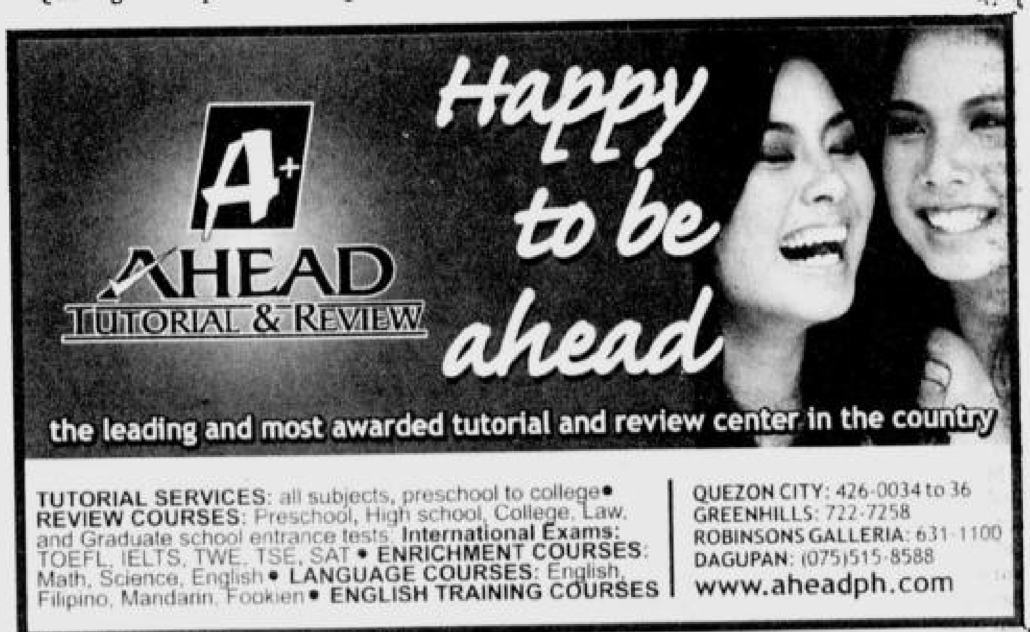
Boats collide

DIGOS CITY—Two fishing boats collided off the coast of Don Marcelino, Davao del Sur on June 21, reports reaching the provincial police office here said on Friday. A fisherman, identified only as Tata, fell off the water and was presumed dead when the vessel he was riding on collided with M/V Prince Philip, a larger fishing boat registered to Diosa Gentiles of Dallao in Toril District, Davao City. The fisherman's body has not yet been located, according to the report. The waters off Don Marcelino are considered one of the treacherous areas in the Davao Gulf. *Eldie Aguirre, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Floods destroy tiles



DIGOS CITY—Japanese tile-maker Nakayama Technology Corp. here reported it lost about P24.2 million due to the floods that hit the city last week. Edgardo Elera, Nakayama vice president, said the flood damaged export quality tiles ready for shipment and computers. The raging waters, he said, also damaged the company's perimeter fence. Disaster officials said the flood also destroyed at least seven houses in at least four villages here but no fatality was reported. Nakayama, the biggest single investment in the city, employs at least 1,000 workers. It exports construction tiles to Japan and other parts of Asia. *Eldie Aguirre, PDI Mindanao Bureau*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AHEAD TUTORIAL & REVIEW

OIC bypasses RP bid anew for observer status

COTABATO CITY—THE ORGANIZATION OF the Islamic Conference (OIC) has skipped anew the Philippines' bid for an observer status, Moro rebel officials attending the summit held in Baku, Azerbaijan said Saturday.

Instead, the OIC urged Malacañang to release Moro National Liberation (MNLF) chief Nur Misuari, who was charged with rebellion.

Hatimil Hassan, MNLF vice chairman, said the application of the Philippine government was never in the agenda of the summit that started on June 19. The Baku summit ended on June 21.

The Philippine government submitted its bid in 2002 yet but since that time, the OIC has not tabled it for discussion.

"It was never discussed in Baku too," Hassan, who arrived here recently, told the INQUIRER.

During the Baku summit, Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo represented the government according to Hassan.

The INQUIRER tried but failed to get reactions from Romulo or from Secretary Jesus Dureza, the national peace adviser.

The government has been convincing the OIC that its effort to solve the Moro rebellion in Mindanao could be boosted if it became an observer.

MILF spokesperson Eid Kabalu said the non-inclusion of the government's bid in the OIC agenda could be an indication the influential 57-member Pan-Islamic body was not keen on replacing the MNLF.

The MILF has sent a team to the summit as part of the MNLF delegation.

The MNLF, which enjoys the backing of Indonesia, Libya and Saudi Arabia among other Muslim nations, continues to hold the observer seat despite signing a peace deal in 1996.

The late Foreign Secretary Blaş Ople had said the MNLF's continued representation of Muslims in the Philippines proved to be the most serious stumbling block to the government's bid for an observer status with the OIC.

Hassan said aside from asking the government to release Misuari, the OIC also renewed its commitment to the 1996 peace treaty.

He said the OIC also passed a resolution calling for the reunification of the MNLF and the MILF.

The MILF came into being after Hashim Salamat bolted out of the MNLF in the late 1980s because of what he perceived as the softening of Misuari's stance on the demand for a separate Moro entity.

Salamat's MILF became the main rebel force in Mindanao after the MNLF and the Ramos government signed the peace deal in 1996.

Later, the MILF agreed to negotiate for peace.
Jeoffrey Maitem, PDI Mindanao Bureau

AS THE BEST football and the World Cup goes underway in Germany, this boy is quite happy to get this worn-out football pick from a junk shop in Baguio City.
TOOTS SOBERANO/PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

Wage board execs say Bohol traders willing to give ₱30-₱50 wage hike

By Jhunnex Napallacan
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—MOST BUSINESSMEN IN BOHOL are willing to give between P30 to P50 wage increase to their workers, according to wage board officials who conducted the wage increase consultation in Tagbilaran City last Thursday.

Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Board (RTWPB) and Department of Labor Central Visayas director Elias Cayanong admired the open-mindedness of the businessmen.

"The businessmen in Bohol are very positive on giving wage increase to their workers," Cayanong said yesterday.

RTPWB labor representative Marianito Ventura of the Trade Union of the Philippines and Allied Services (Tupas) said the businessmen in Bohol offered a much better amount compared to those in Dumaguete City.

The wage board had conducted wage consultations in Dumaguete City in Negros Oriental last June 15 wherein the officials of the Dumaguete City Chamber of Commerce and Industry agreed only to a pay hike of up to P14.

Ventura said the businessmen in Bohol agreed to P30 to P50 amount because they are afraid that Congress would eventually pass the P125-across-the-board wage increase.

"Besides, Bohol has a booming economy. Many tourists are coming to Bohol based on my observation at the port of Tagbilaran," Ventura said.

Ventura also agreed that the rising economy of Bohol had reflected on the positive response of the businessmen in Bohol on the wage issue.

But he explained that he could not also blame the businessmen in Negros Oriental if they could only offer P14 in daily wage increase since the province remained highly dependent on agriculture.

During the consultation in Tagbilaran, the organization of the province's Catholic schools were also open to the ideal of a P30-P50 wage increase.

The Bohol Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Bohol Chinese Chamber of Commerce and the group of resort owners were prepared to give only up to P30, Cayanong said.

The labor groups who attended in Tagbilaran public hearing, however, still insisted on the proposed wage increases they had filed before the RWTPB.

The Associated Labor Union-Trade Union Congress of the Philippines (ALU-TUCP) had demanded a P75 across-the-board daily wage increase, while the Alliance of Progressive Labor (APL) was asking for a P95-daily wage hike. Both groups also support the proposed P125-daily legislated wage increase.

Fishers want destructive fishing stopped

STO. TOMAS, LA UNION—SOME 300 fishermen in 10 coastal villages here have asked the local government to stop the operations of commercial fishing vessels and dynamite fishing inside the town's 15-km fishing zone.

They also asked the town council to provide incentives to volunteers of Bantay Dagat (sea guards) and the local fisheries law enforcement team so they could perform their functions more effectively.

Jose Leones, president of the Progresibong Alyansa ng mga Mangingisda sa Pilipinas chapter here, said the fishermen's demands were contained in a June 6 manifesto that his group sent to the office of Mayor Severino Carbonell.

Leones said the operations of the commercial fishing vessels, using trawl and *boli-boli* methods, and dynamite fishing have reduced the fishermen's catch by as much as 70 percent.

Trawl fishing, which uses fine mesh nets, and *boli-boli* fishing, which uses fish traps with weights that pound the bottom of the waters, are considered destructive and are banned by law in the municipal waters.

Leones, quoting their manifesto, said personnel from the Philippine National Police's Maritime Command and the Philippine Coast Guard have been posted in the area but their presence could not stop the trawl and *boli-boli* fishing vessels.

"Every time we approach them [members of the PNP's maritime command and PCG] to catch the dynamite fishers and the banned fishing vessels, they always say they have no operational funds," Leones said.

The INQUIRER tried but failed to reach for comment the chiefs of the police's maritime command and the PCG based in Damortis village.

Carbonell said he was aware of the problems of the fishermen but could not do anything because the local government did not have funds to monitor the municipal waters.

"Our allocation for gasoline is limited so our boats could not move regularly to patrol our municipal waters," he said.

Carbonell said most of the dynamite fishers operating in his town come from the neighboring towns of Agoo and Aringay.

"I suspect that these fishermen have strong 'backers' because of their audacity in venturing into our territorial waters," he said.

He said most of the trawl and *boli-boli* commercial fishing vessels operate out of Dagupan City. "The owner-operators of these commercial vessels have powerful political connections," he said.

His office was preparing plans for a multisectoral meeting to discuss the problems, he said. Expected to attend are representatives of the police's maritime command, PCG, the regional office of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources and local fishermen.

Rosario Gaerlan, acting director of the BFAR in the Ilocos, said the Sto. Tomas fishermen should file a complaint with her office on the encroachment of the trawl and *boli-boli* commercial fishing vessels. *Peter La. Julian with a report from Errol Abrew, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

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DPWH in Iloilo accused of ₱6.6-M irregularity

By Gerome Dalipe IV
PDI Visayas Bureau

ILOILO CITY—A RANKING CAPITOL OFFICIAL here has accused the Department of Public Works and Highways in the province of alleged irregularity in the purchase of heavy equipment worth P6.6 million.

Provincial Administrator Manuel Mejorada claimed that the equipment were reconditioned and that the DPWH's fourth engineering district allegedly conspired with a foundation identified with then 2nd district Rep. Augusto "Boboy" Syjuco in buying the equipment.

Cecille Caligan, head of the DPWH-Iloilo's 4th engineering district, denied any irregularity.

He said all his actions were based on the recommendations of the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) and the technical inspection report of DPWH's regional equipment engineer.

Caligan said he could not conspire with Syjuco and influence the bidding process because he was not even a member of the BAC.

He said the bidding was open to the public and was even posted over the Internet. He also said it was the BAC that presided and selected the winning bidder.

Caligan said his only role during the bidding process was to record the entire proceedings. Before the equipment delivered by the winning bidder were accepted by the engineering district, he said the Regional Equipment Office subjected them to a "rigid test operation."

"There is, therefore, no basis to say that the 4th Engineering District was forced to accept as 'reconditioned' the heavy equipment ..." Caligan insisted in his counteraffidavit submitted to the Office of the Ombudsman.

He said the equipment were "duly examined and found to be in order."

Caligan's counteraffidavit was in compliance with the order of Ombudsman Director Edgardo Canton dated May 11, 2006 directing him, Syjuco and Juanito Tizon, president and owner of the winning bidder Azure Builders Corp., to answer the allegations raised by Mejorada.

Mejorada said Caligan immediately paid for the equipment based only on the affidavit of ownership presented by Tizon.

"Where can you find a person who sells heavy equipment presenting only an affidavit of ownership just to prove he is the real owner of the heavy equipment?" asked Mejorada.

Mejorada said Tizon failed to present the Certificate of Registration or official receipt from the Land Transportation Office in the case of dump trucks, and no deeds of sale from previous owners in the cases of the road graders, payloaders and other equipment.

Mejorada said Caligan caused the payment of the machineries and equipment "that turned out to be registered in the names of other individuals."

Citing Caligan's report dated July 20, 2004 to engineer Gary Villanueva, the officer in charge-regional equipment engineer, Mejorada said Roberto Paredes, automotive equipment inspector, made a comment that one dump truck with plate numbers WPA-306 "needs further reconditioning."

In short, Mejorada said, the dump truck failed to meet the standards of the automotive equipment inspectors.

"The proper procedure would have been to require the supplier to undertake further reconditioning of the dump truck and then request the automotive equipment inspector to conduct another inspection and test operation," Mejorada said.

In a certification dated Dec. 16, 2005, Mejorada said Aida Santiago, the LTO chief in Angeles City, Pampanga, reported that the dump truck with plate numbers WPA-306 was registered in the name of a Cecilio Mamungay of 46 Sta. Cruz, Lubao, Pampanga.

"Interestingly, the LTO Angeles City attached the papers of the previous owner which was Tawo kag Duta sa Kauswagan Foundations Inc., the chairman of whom is Syjuco," said Mejorada.

In another certification dated Nov. 8, 2005, Mejorada revealed that Anuel Bonite of LTO Iloilo informed him that the dump truck with plate numbers WPA-295 was registered in the same foundation.

Mejorada said he could not reconcile the above transaction because the official records would show that these two dump trucks were registered in the name of other individuals and entities.

He further said that the Deed of Absolute Sale was defective in the sense that the chassis and engine numbers of the machineries and equipment sold to the DPWH were not indicated in the document.

"The damage to the government was not in the bidding, but in the delivery of the equipment and subsequent payment," said Mejorada.

INQUIRER Mindanao

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Centuries-old tradition renders swift justice

By Jojo G. Silvestre
Contributor

AN AGE-OLD TRADITION OF mediation has kept family feuds from escalating into full-blown clan or community wars in Sultan Kudarat, one of the progressive towns of Maguindanao.

"We settle disputes even before complaints are filed in court," said the mayor, Datu Tocao Mastura. He was referring to the centuries-old system that his municipality has adapted and legalized when he issued Executive Order No. 05 in 2004.

The order created the Walay Na Bitiara, a council composed of respected elders and experts of Islamic law and traditions.

Mastura explained that this mode of conflict resolution was based on the Islamic tradition of consensus building and consultation. The term "Bitiara," which means "exchange," describes what takes place when both parties engage in a fair exchange of arguments and facts.

"It is not an adversarial situation, unlike in the usual court where technicalities can hinder one from saying something," Mastura said.

'Almost always, the settlement ... ends the conflict and there is no longer a need to bring the matter to the civil court, so we are in a way, preventing the clogging of cases,' Mastura stressed

Swearing by the Koran

"Here, you can speak your mind and the council will listen to everything you say. Here, there are no lawyers trying to outsmart one another."

The council calls on "credible" witnesses who must swear by the Koran "to tell the truth and nothing but the truth," the mayor added.

Mastura said the system of dispensing justice was based on the Parwalan, a code of conduct for Muslims authored by Sultan Maulana Fakir in the 17th century.

"The Parwalan is, of course, detailed," he said. He cited examples of specific violations that required specific punishments, such as the cutting of one or more fingers, depending on the seriousness of the offense and its impact on the community or the aggrieved person or family.

MAYOR Datu Tocao Mastura presides in a session to settle local conflicts in the presence of military and other stakeholders. PHOTOS BY JOJO SILVESTRE/CONTRIBUTOR

MAYOR Mastura issued executive order to settle local conflicts through traditional Islamic justice system.

The executive order, however, combines both customs and traditional practices in resolving disputes, as compiled by the traditional leaders and elders, and provisions of Presidential Decree No. 1508, which defines the responsibilities and scope of the Katarungang Pambarangay or the barangay justice system.

How the system works

Under the executive order, conflicts are first settled in the barangay-based Walay Na Bitiara. If both parties cannot agree on a settlement, the case is elevated to the municipal Walay Na Bitiara, Mastura said.

To distinguish the process from the old practice, the mayor said: "We no longer have a jury. The members of the council discuss the pros and cons, and I pronounce the details of the settlement as agreed upon by the parties involved."

"Almost always, the settlement ... ends the conflict and there is no longer a need to bring the matter to the civil court, so we are in a way, preventing the clogging of cases," Mastura stressed.

But "when the defendant is a little bit hard to deal with and uncooperative," he said, "we suggest to the complainant to file a case in court."

"We work fast to ensure that the matter is settled before a first hearing ever takes place. The suspect or defendant then behaves and agrees to settle amicably," he said.

Mutual agreement

"Standard fines are imposed," Mastura said.

He cited the case of a person who was shot and eventually became paralyzed. The accused, it was agreed, should pay for the hospital bills of the victim and give P120,000 to the victim and family. When both parties agreed, the case was declared closed.

If Mastura is able to perform successfully the part of the "judge," he alludes to his lineage that can be traced all the way to Datu Sultan Kudarat, "the father of my grandfather, or the grandfather of my father."

Like other males of the same descent, Mastura is a recognized datu who must be accorded respect and honor.

Mastura was mayor of Sultan Kudarat from 1977 to 1998. His daughter, Bai Shajida Mastura-Bandila, took over after his term expired. In 2001, he was elected mayor again.

Mastura once served as a subordinate officer of the late Moro Islamic Liberation Front chief Salamat Hashim before the rebel group split from the Moro National Liberation Front. When Mastura surrendered in the early 1970s, he became municipal secretary.

Traditional yet progressive

In the seat of the sultanate of Sultan Kudarat, Mastura is mayor, datu and judge. If he can be considered a leader in its traditional sense, he also keeps a progressive outlook. Sultan Kudarat, who belongs to a province of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao, is one of the local government partners of the Local Governance Support Program in the ARMM (LGSPA), a "capacity-building" program funded by the Canadian International Development Agency.

The LGSPA seeks to promote peace and development in the ARMM through excellence in local governance. It has conducted trainings and seminars where Mastura has spoken about his innovative approaches to governance, including his peace-building and maintenance efforts through the Walay na Bitiara.

The partnership between the LGSPA and Sultan Kudarat is not exactly new. In the second phase of the program, the municipality was among the LGUs in the region which received capacity-building projects.

It was able to start its information and communication technology (ICT) program, resulting in the computerization of its financial management services.

'Corporate' governance

Upon the invitation of the LGSPA, Mastura and his ICT team have gone around the ARMM to help other municipalities replicate their success.

A certified public accountant, Mastura said he was running the affairs of Sultan Kudarat as though it was "a corporate venture."

With his daughter, Bai Shajida, giving him all-out support as vice mayor and chair of the Sangguniang Bayan, Mastura has involved more women in community building, primarily by providing them livelihood training and start-up initiatives.

No wonder that when LGSPA chose the recipients of the Kaagapay Seal of Excellence in Local Governance, identifying LGU partners that exemplified excellence in the areas of local government leadership and management, service delivery, resource generation and participatory governance, Sultan Kudarat was on its list. Its ICT and Gender and Development programs were praised by the judges.

THE AUTHOR is a Manila-based freelance writer.–Ed.

Camiguin is home to expat dressmaker

By Ramon Jorge Sarabosing
Camiguin Island

CAMIGUIN'S MANY RUSTIC charms have added a new name: Avilla Sabio Busky and her Treehouse by the Sea.

Friendly and full of life, Avilla or Gigi, hails from Valencia, Bukidnon, and has worked her way around the world—from Manila, Hong Kong and London, to the United States and Cayman Islands in the Caribbean.

But home is, finally, Camiguin.

"I love this island. This is the best place to live in, to settle down and have a peaceful life," says the 57-year-old who could easily be the island's ambassadress and most gracious hostess.

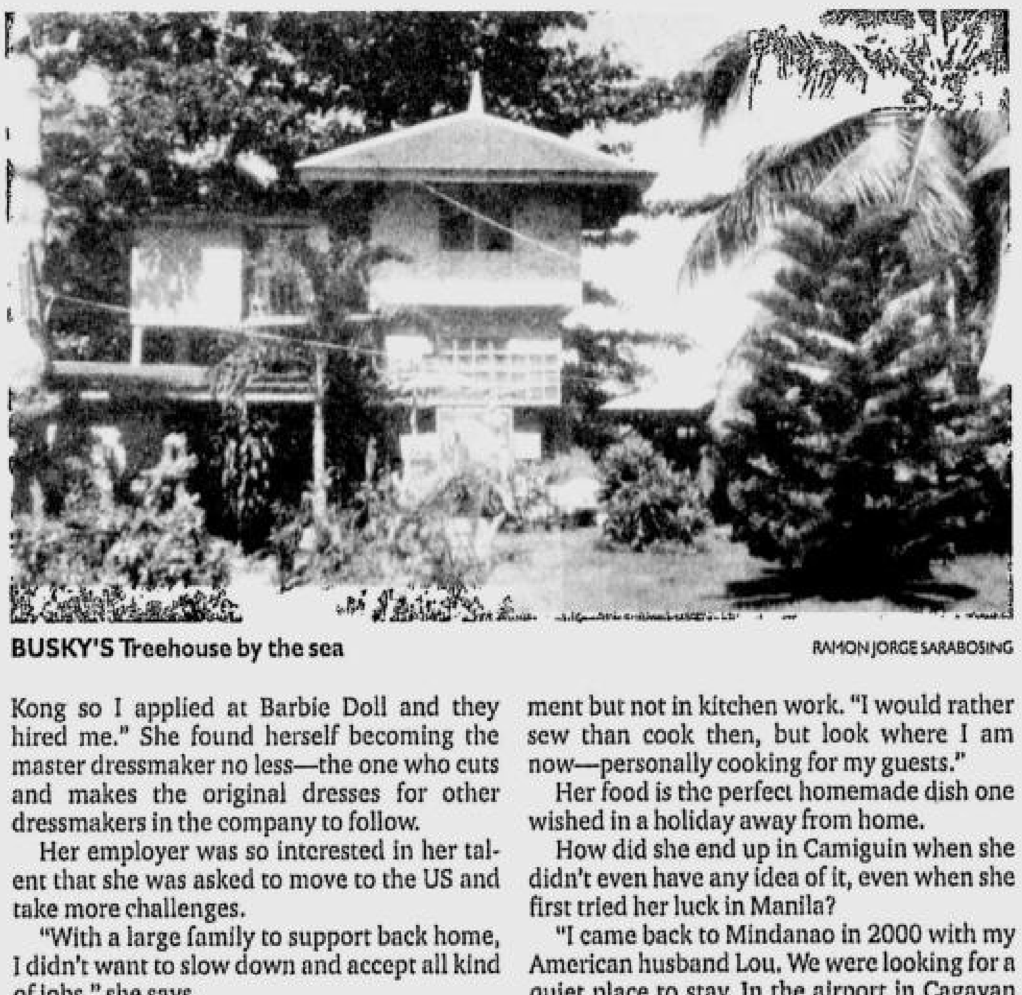
Her residence-cum-hostel could be the best home stay in this island getaway of northern Mindanao.

Gigi is the eldest of more than a dozen siblings orphaned from their father. She worked as a meat vendor in her hometown Valencia and moved to Manila as a dressmaker, then to Hong Kong as a domestic helper.

"I have to fend for my siblings and my own children as my first husband died early as well," she said.

But it was her dressmaking skills that propelled her life for the better.

Master dressmaker


BUSKY'S Treehouse by the sea RAMON JORGE SARABOSING

"I wanted to work double-time in Hong Kong so I applied at Barbie Doll and they hired me." She found herself becoming the master dressmaker no less—the one who cuts and makes the original dresses for other dressmakers in the company to follow.

Her employer was so interested in her talent that she was asked to move to the US and take more challenges.

"With a large family to support back home, I didn't want to slow down and accept all kind of jobs," she says.

She was also involved in hotel management but not in kitchen work. "I would rather sew than cook then, but look where I am now—personally cooking for my guests."

Her food is the perfect homemade dish one wished in a holiday away from home.

How did she end up in Camiguin when she didn't even have any idea of it, even when she first tried her luck in Manila?

"I came back to Mindanao in 2000 with my American husband Lou. We were looking for a quiet place to stay. In the airport in Cagayan de Oro City, I asked people and they recommended Camiguin," Gigi said.

They were glad they came.

Sea and sunset

"People asked me why I stayed. To answer them, I point to the sea," she said.

The marvelous sunset from her garden holds the answer.

Gigi could not be wrong in finding her corner of the sky. Nestled on the edge, between two ancient volcanoes—Hibok-Hibok and Vulcan—and the Bohol Sea in Barangay Naasag of Mambajao, of winding road and front yards full of flowers, the place is nature-blessed.

The Busky couple built their dream house without reservations; they know they have found their niche. They also wanted to share it to other people and earn an income in between.

Though they did not bother with promotion, guests come through word of mouth or by accident. "Some guests stumble by, knock and check and stay until the next day," she said.

Gigi is a rare example of a humble local girl with a global touch. "I'm a hands-on worker. I don't mind tending the garden myself, cooking and fixing the rooms. I like to busy myself."

But she also knows how to have a relaxing good time like taking to the sea every morning or flying to London to visit her grandchildren.

Back to Camiguin she will be, to the cool sea breeze and the magnificent sunset.

She is home.

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'One in body, spirit for the oppressed'

By Jeffrey M. Tupas, Edwin O. Fernandez, Jeffrey Maitem, Aquiles Z. Zonio and Michael Sarcauga
PDI Mindanao Bureau

KIDAPAWAN CITY—"TO BE ONE IN BODY AND SPIRIT FOR the struggle of the oppressed people; and to live one day at a time…witnessed by the spirits of this place."

Broadcast journalists George Vigo and Maricel (also known as Mazel) Alave made this vow in 1991 which they wrote on a small piece of paper and buried in the cold earth around Mt. Apo's Lake Agco.

True to their vow, the two remained united even in death after motorcycle-riding gunmen shot and killed the couple in an ambush here last Monday.

Police authorities in Central Mindanao have identified one of the suspects in Monday's ambush-slay of the two broadcast journalists.

Chief Supt. German Doria, Central Mindanao police chief, said they were able to identify Dionisio Mananggit, an alleged communist hitman, as one of the two gunmen that waylaid the couple based on an artist's sketch.

The North Cotabato government and the city government of Kidapawan have offered a P150,000 reward for the arrest of the suspects.

According to Doria, Mananggit is a member of the New People's Army's sparrow unit under Front Committee 21 and is on the wanted list.

He said that Mananggit was also the suspect in the killing of a town councilor in Magpet and an engineer in Makilala, both in North Cotabato, early this year.

Doria said that based on their investigation, they found out that George was also a former rebel, who was under Commander Benjie.

Asked why the communists would target the Vigos, Doria said the NPA had suspected that George was instrumental in the raid that killed Commander Benjie last year.

"They believed it was George Vigo who informed the military about the whereabouts of Commander Benjie. So it appears now that the motive was retaliation and the killing was not media-related," he said.

But the NPA has denied any involvement in the killing.

Ricardo Fermiza, spokesperson of the Magtanggol Roque Command of the NPA in Southern Mindanao, said the Vigo couple were known for their involvement "in the progressive legal democratic mass movement in North Cotabato" and it was unlikely for the NPA to target them.

He also said they had no member by the name of Mananggit.

"They have contributed to the struggle for human rights, environment protection, agrarian reform, and the rights and welfare of media, women and children and national minorities," Fermiza said.

The Vigos hosted two popular weekly radio program—"Voice of the Youth" and "Affairs in Congress"—over the Catholic-run dxND radio here.

George, 33, was a contributor to the Union of Catholic Asian News Agency and was project officer of Community and Family Services International, an NGO based in Cotabato City.

Maricel, 39, belonged to the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan, a militant group whose members have also come under attack. She was a member of the League of Filipino Students and the College Editors Guild of the Philippines during her student days.

In the early 1990s, the couple joined the progressive movement. But when they got married in 1995 they decided to lie low and instead got involved in development work.

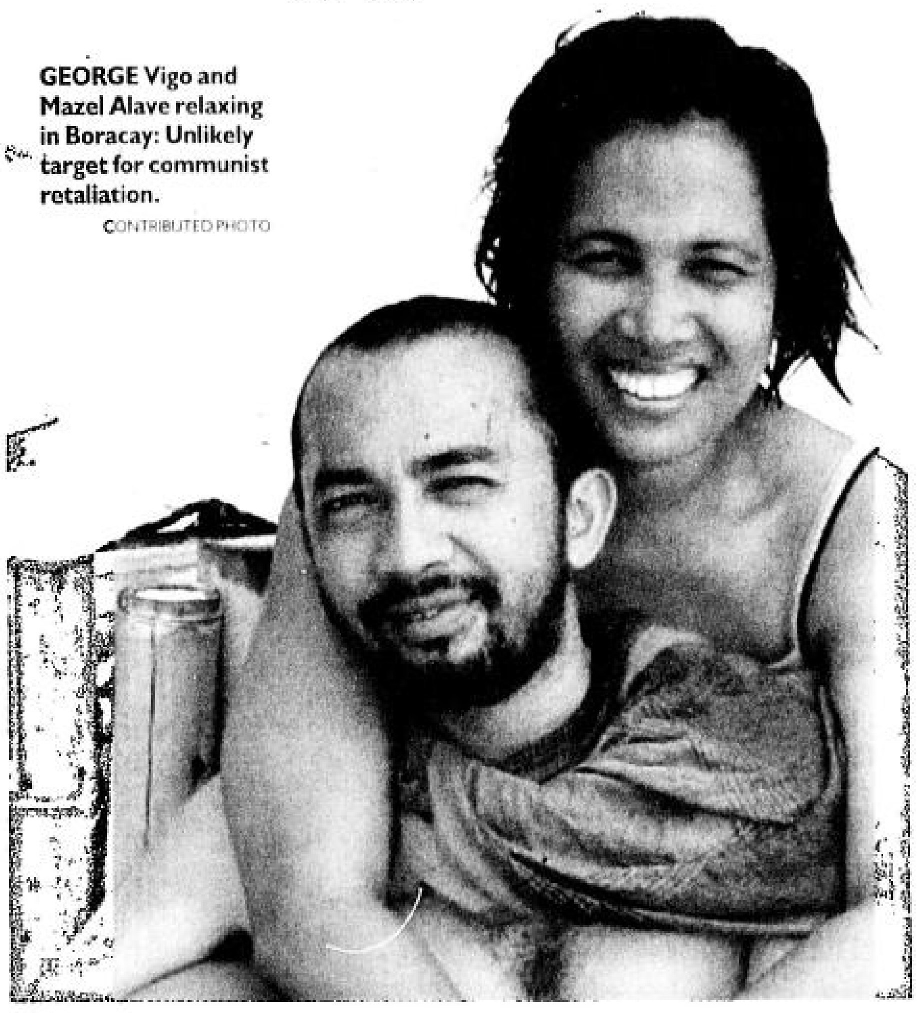
Until her death, Maricel was the development training officer for agrarian reform communities with solar projects in Mindanao.

Prof. Vilma Gonzales of the University of Southern Mindanao in Kabacan, North Cotabato, said the Vigos "could have been erroneously placed on a list of progressive individuals who are fighting the government."

Those who knew the couple said the bullets that took their lives were not enough to put an end to what they believed in.

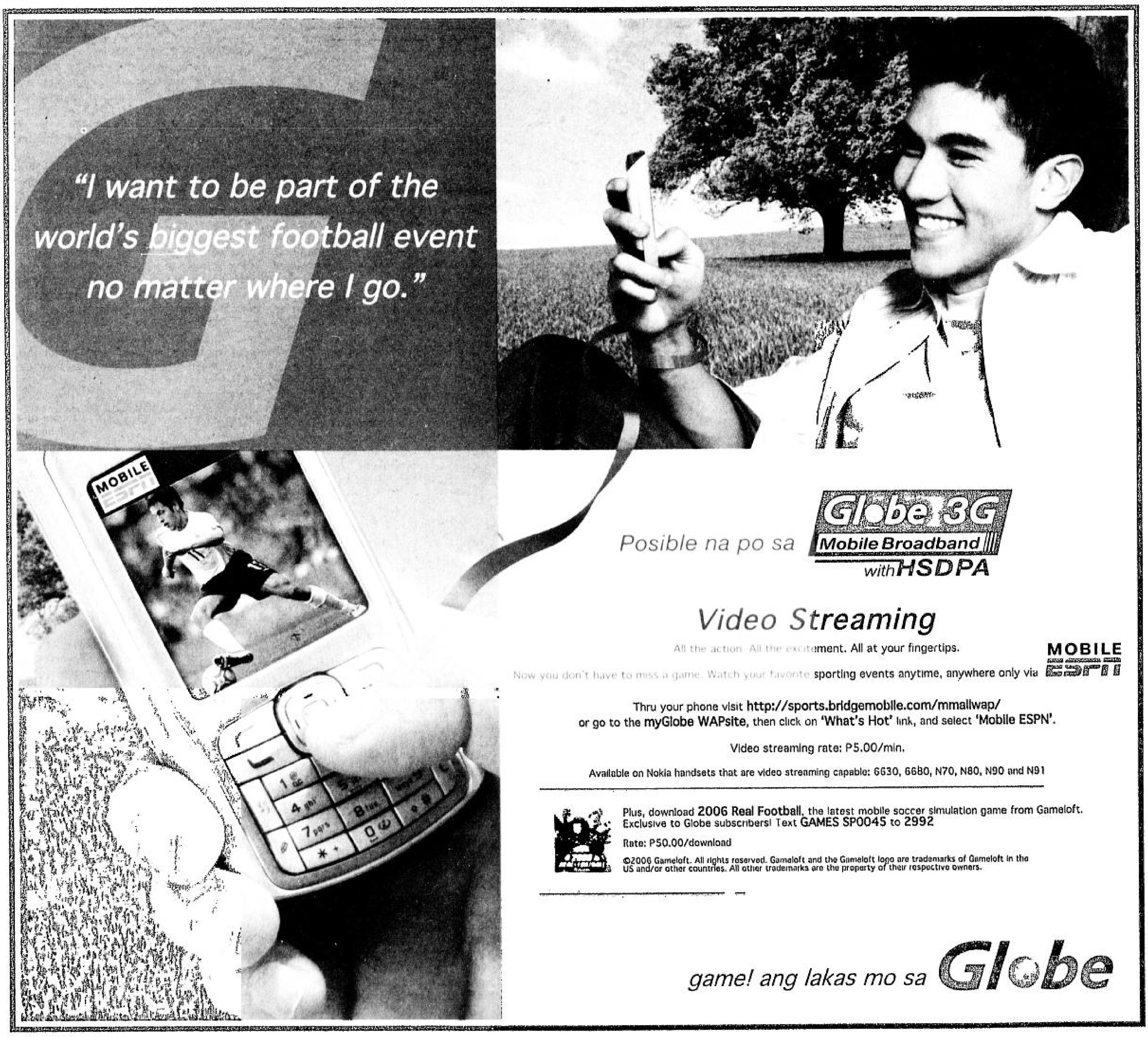
"I hope we will not fail them. I will miss my mom's love for us. I will miss my father's life lessons for us…both of them always wanted us to become better persons not only for ourselves but for others," said 14-year old Dennis Rev, the couple's eldest son, a freshman at the Philippine Science High School in Davao City.

In Mahayag, Zamboanga del Sur, the remains of slain militant leader Tito Marata, who was also shot dead by motorcycle-riding gunmen on June 17 while on his way to Oroquieta City, were laid to rest on Thursday afternoon. *With a report from Joselle Badilla, PDI Mindanao Bureau*



GEORGE Vigo and Mazel Alave relaxing in Boracay: Unlikely target for communist retaliation.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

TOGETHER unto death, George and Mazel stand by Lake Agco where they buried the vow they made in 1991.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO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Editor **Ester G. Dipasupil**

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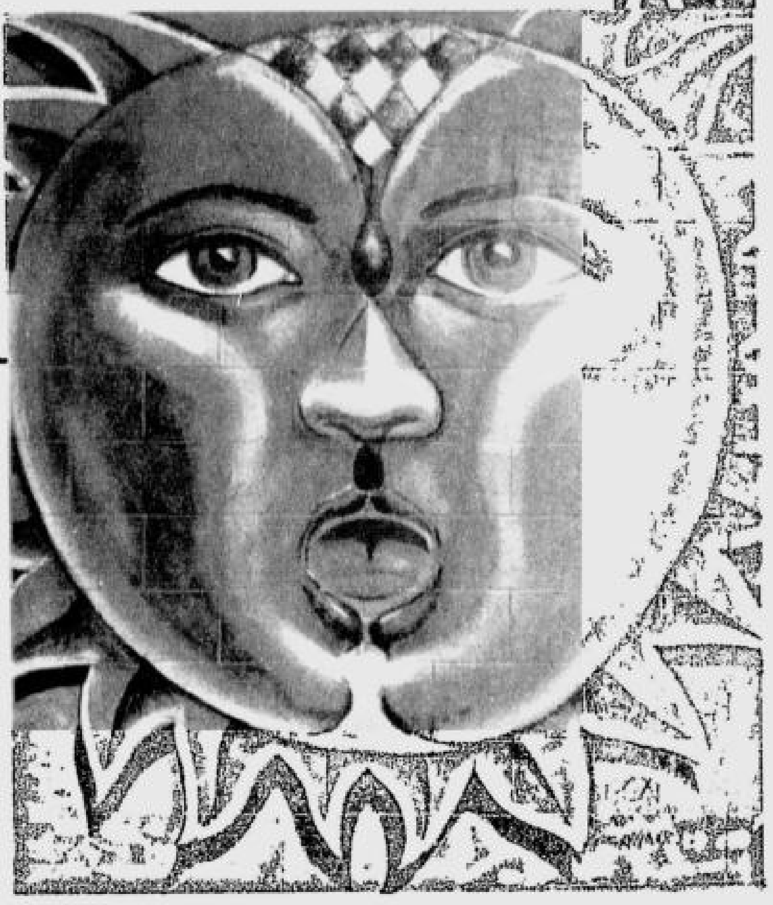
Reposo: From dirt road to art and resto row

Makati's once forgotten street wants to be city's art center



SEVERAL of the art works (right, bottom) on the mural that brightens up Reposo Street *(see related story on next page)*. PHOTOS: MANDY NAVASERO

By Jocelyn R. Uy

IF ONE WERE TO GO ON A TRIP DOWN memory lane, these would be some of the scenes likely to be seen on Makati's Reposo Street of old:

Carriages drawn by horses, their hooves pounding a staccato beat on the street lined by fire trees and vacation houses.

Behind these houses, vacationing rich Filipino and Spanish families would often be seen having picnics on the prairie as they listened to music coming from a rondalla or watched the performers in a zarzuela.

The whole stretch of Reposo—which has since been renamed Nicanor Garcia, after the first mayor of Makati—was then a relaxation haven for the *illustrados* who lived in Intramuros, Manila, during the Spanish era, according to Senor Guillermo Gomez.

Gomez, a Spanish enthusiast and one of the oldest members of the community, wrote a paper on the area's history.

Pleasant place

Called Plesantero (pleasant place), the old Reposo was nothing but a dirt road hemmed by fire trees that flared during the summer. The trees were purportedly imported by the De Ayala Roxas clan from Mexico.

The Ayalas' bloodline, Gomez said, can be traced to the old Roxas family who originated from Batangas and were considered Indio Principalia (local elite).

"One tradition says it started with one Datto Malibay who became a vassal of the King of Spain, thereby becoming Spanish," Gomez wrote.

Malibay's ancestral land was vast, starting somewhere near the mouth of the Pasig River and ending in a strait connected to the Laguna de Bay.

Intermarriages

This native *principalia* was said to have intermarried with Spanish *peninsulares* such as Rojas (Roxas), Ayala and Chinos Cristianos bearing the name Lim de Castro and Dian.

"But later generations married more Spanish *peninsulares* like Melian, Soriano, Olgado... down to the latter day Elizaldes," Gomez said.

The Zobel Roxas founded the township of Sta. Ana and Makati. They expanded their

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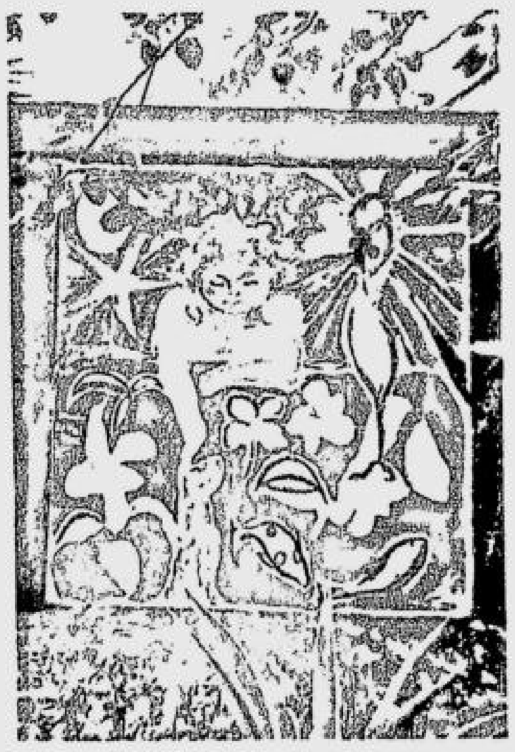

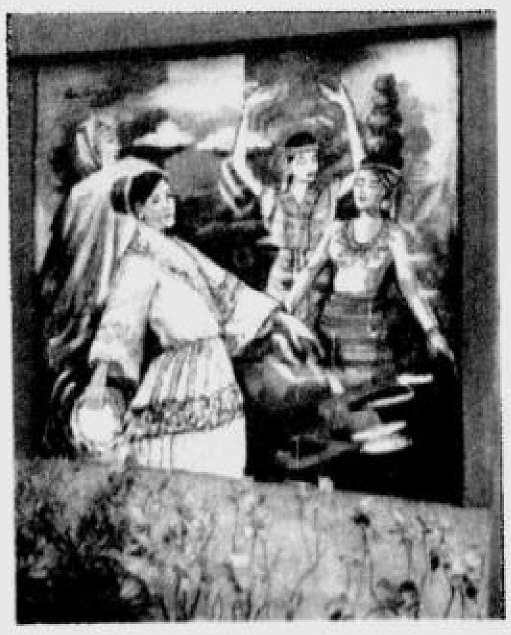

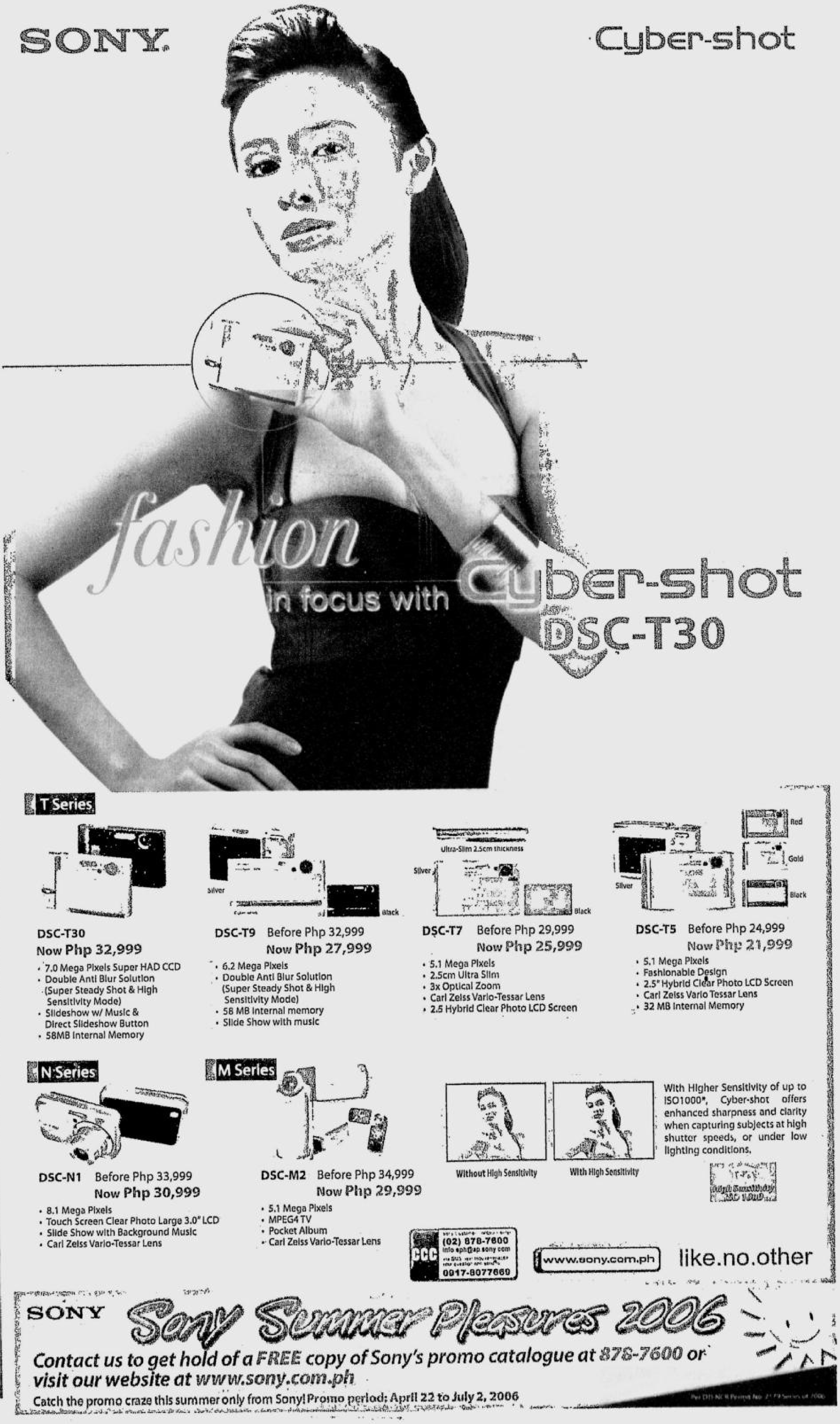

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Judge recalls warrants used in Navotas raid

By Jocelyn R. Uy

A LOWER COURT HAS ORDERED THE National Bureau of Investigation to return the boxes of chocolate drink it had confiscated from a factory in Navotas in April after the judge recalled the search warrants he issued for the raid.

Judge Alberto Lerma of the Muntinlupa City Regional Trial Court Branch 256 said he had "no option but to recall the search warrants" issued against Columbia International Food Product after he found no probable cause to believe that the company's chocolate drink, "Chocquik," had infringed on Nestlé's trademark.

Last April, NBI agents raided Columbia's factory on Escoda Street, San Rafael Village in Navotas. Thousands of boxes of its chocolate drink were seized during the operation.

'Confusingly similar'

The NBI conducted the operation after Lerma issued search warrants based on a complaint Nestlé Philippines had filed against Columbia. Nestlé had alleged that the packaging of Columbia's milk drink was "confusingly similar" to that of Milo.

Lerma, however, said that after examining and comparing both products, he was convinced that Chocquik could not be mistaken for the Nestlé product.

"Clearly, the only perceptible similarity between the two products is the presence of more or less similar shades of colors in their respective packages," the judge added.

"All evidence obtained by the applicant (Nestlé) under [the] search warrants are hereby ordered suppressed for all purposes. The NBI is hereby ordered to immediately return to [Columbia]... all the articles and properties seized from the company...," Lerma ordered.

Wet day in San Juan; Manila marks 435th year

By Tina G. Santos

"I'M TOO OLD FOR THIS," SAID LOLITO Guzman, 62, a resident of San Juan which celebrated the Feast of St. John the Baptist yesterday.

"They should have spared me," she added. Guzman said she was on her way to the market when she met several young men who poured water on her.

Another "victim," nursing student Leah Manimtin, 18, hurled invectives at the boys who threw plastic bags filled with what seemed to be murky water at her, splattering her white uniform.

"I begged them to spare me because I was in a hurry to go to school. Now I have to go back home to change my uniform," she told the INQUIRER.

Others, however, took the annual ritual of being doused with water in stride.

From 7 a.m. to 12 noon, residents of the town romped on the streets and used water pistols, water-filled plastic bags and dippers to douse water on each other.

Supt. Rodelio Jocson, San Juan police chief, said yesterday's celebration was generally peaceful.

"There were only minor incidents, mostly caused by misunderstandings, which in the end, were all settled. Most complainants were not aware that this was how San Juan residents celebrate the feast, that it was done all in the spirit of fun," Jocson told the INQUIRER.

Jocson said the town's entire police force was mobilized and deployed in major thoroughfares to ensure that no disagreements broke out during the celebration.

The police chief added that he ordered a 14-man team to arrest residents caught throwing hard objects and dirty water at people on board public utility vehicles.

In Manila, the celebration marking the city's 435th founding anniversary yesterday kicked off with a thanksgiving Mass at the Remedios Circle at 7 a.m.

It was followed by wreath-laying ceremonies at the tomb of Miguel Lopez de Legaspi at the San Agustin Church in Intramuros and at the Rajah Sulayman Monument in Malate.

Both lanes of Roxas Boulevard, from Quirino Avenue to Pedro Gil, were closed to traffic later in the day to give way to a concert at the Rajah Sulayman Park that was capped by a grand fireworks display.

METROBRIEFS

LPG tanks seized

THE NATIONAL Bureau of Investigation (NBI) has warned against the proliferation of illegally refilled liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) tanks as its agents raided five establishments in Muntinlupa, Cainta and Antipolo City. Seized during the operations were P1.2 million worth of LPG tanks bearing the brand names of Petron Corp., Pilipinas Shell Corp., Total Philippines Inc. and Superkalan Gaz Corp. NBI Intellectual Property Rights Division (IPRD) chief Jose Justo Yap said the raids were conducted on Friday after the oil companies complained that the stores had been refilling their LPG tanks and passing them off as genuine products. Trademark infringement and unfair competition charges would be filed against the owners of JPS LPG Gas Supply, United Star Trading, Triple K Gas, Corsan Rice Dealer and Mia-J Poultry Supply. "We are going after these counterfeiters not only to protect the interests of the gas companies but the public as well," Yap said in an interview. He stressed that unauthorized dealers do not check the cylinders for leaks during the refilling process, and this could lead to an accident. *Tina G. Santos*

Security tightened

FOLLOWING reports about possible terror threats in Metro Manila, the Las Piñas police beefed up security in the city's 200 villages and subdivisions over the weekend. City police chief Supt. Josephus Angan yesterday deployed Special Weapons and Tactics Team to strategic areas as he also ordered additional mobile patrols to watch over the city 24 hours a day. Mayor Imelda Aguilar had earlier ordered the police to step up security in Las Piñas even as the city police reported a 95-percent crime solution efficiency from January to June this year. "We cannot compromise the safety of our city residents," Aguilar had said in a statement. She also instructed the police to monitor the city's entry and exit points, particularly the "Friendship Routes"—a network of alternate or secondary streets leading to the city's hundreds of subdivisions and villages—to prevent residents from being victimized by robbers and other criminals. *Jocelyn R. Uy*

Book launching set

THE AMADO V. Hernandez Resource Center, in cooperation with the University of the Philippines Institute of Creative Writing, will launch the book "Armando" on June 27, 3 p.m., at the Claro M. Recto Hall, UP College of Arts and Letters. "Armando" is the biography of the late activist Armando Teng, presenting not only a heroic narrative but a life in contradiction and the struggle of a revolutionary. Written by multi-awarded fictionist Jun Cruz Reyes, the book narrates the story of Teng as a student activist, community organizer, father, husband, friend, leader and servant of the people. Reyes, AVHRC Creative Director and UP ICW Fellow, said, "We have to celebrate that we have such a person as Armando Teng." Among those expected to attend the launching are party-list Representatives Satur Ocampo and Rafael Mariano, National Artist for Literature Bienvenido Lumbrera, former UP president Francisco Nemenzo, Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas chair Danilo Ramos, and playwright-director Bonifacio Ilagan.

Cops nab suspect

A MAN who had promised jobs in the United Kingdom to over 80 persons in exchange for money was arrested in an entrapment operation yesterday. Supt. James Brillantes, chief of the Quezon City Police District Intelligence and Investigation Division, identified the suspect as Joselito Torre 45, a resident of Madre Perla St. in Vito Cruz, Manila. "At least 84 victims had filed a complaint against him after he failed to send them abroad as factory workers," Brillantes said. He added that the suspect had promised his victims that they would receive a salary equivalent to $2,000 each. *Nancy C. Carvajal*

Reposo mural adds color to thriving art colony

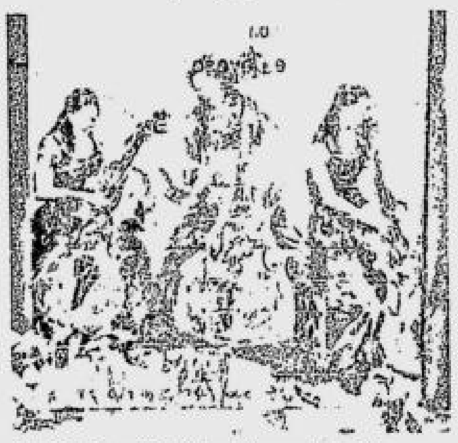
By Joscephine Gomez
Contributor

THE NEW MURAL ALONG NICANOR Roxas St. (formerly Reposo) in Makati is an apt addition to the area, which wants to be known as the city's art center.

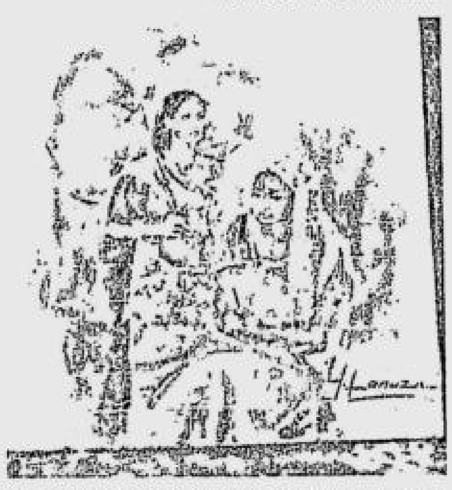
A project of Grupo Reposo, an artists' association headed by Ed Soler based at the LRI Business Plaza on Reposo Street, the recently-unveiled mural showcases the individual expressions of 17 Filipino artists, both the established and the promising. The artists are Gig de Pio, Hermes Alegre, Egay Fernandez, Gino Tioseco, Tony Nunez, Camille dela Rosa, Poch Naval, Joey Ibay, Michelle Herbert, Jerry Ingco, Pancho Piano, Elmer Torio, Monn Taneza, Egay Roxas, Aileen Lanuza, Vincent de Pio and Bogie Ruiz.

The mural is unique in that it is not just one painting but a showcase of 17 complete compositions.

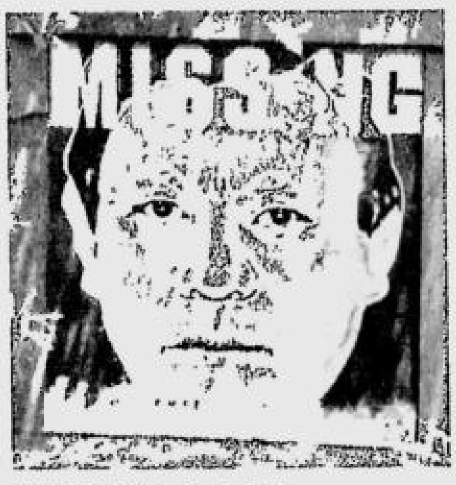
Paintings with themes of social realism dominate the whole "canvas."



"THREE cellists" by Vincent de Pio
PHOTOS BY MANDY NAVASERO



"DALAWANG Mariang Clara" by Aileen Lanuza



"MISSING" by Bogie Ruiz

Emotional outlet

Ruiz, winner of the 2003 Araw ng Maynila Award and two-time Illustration of the Year awardee in Singapore, said, "I readily accepted Ed Soler's invitation to paint as it gave me the opportunity to express how I felt about the emotional distance between my father and I. It was like he was missing when, in fact, he was really there all the time."

Quite interestingly, his father worked with the Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. for 35 years. The mural is in front of the PLDT building on Reposo Street so Ruiz felt it was only appropriate to put his father's face on the wall.

"Missing," the title of Ruiz's painting, is also about people who are made to disappear by people who are drunk with power.

Ambivalent feelings

In "Duality of One," Fernandez used the sun to express ambivalence: the longing to give and the existence of selfish desires at the same time.

"Sunlight is beneficial while at the same time damaging, " he said.

Of these individual expressions, "Three cellists" by Vincent de Pio and the painting beside it, "Dalawang Mariang Clara" by Aileen Lanuza, easily catch one's attention.

The former, an impressionist painting, is done in black and white while the latter, a mix of impressionism and expressionism, is in color.

Women now and then

Done by two of the country's most promising young artists, the paintings reflect the sharp contrast between Filipino women then and now.

"I wanted to express the traditional concept of the Filipina beauty—with *morena* (brown-skinned) complexion—which in these days of skin whitening, has long been forgotten and made to appear inferior to white skin," said Lanuza, the youngest in the group. The artist has a Fine Arts degree (cum laude), major in Visual Communication, from the University of the Philippines.

Vincent de Pio, son of portrait artist, Gig de Pio, on the other hand, said, "I wanted my work to convey that music is part of Philippine life and our women in the performing arts are at par with their foreign counterparts."

The painter, whose works were a hit at a recent exhibition in Singapore, admitted that the consciousness evoked in his impressionist works reflect values he grew up with, such as maintaining excellence in everything he does, as in "Three cellists."

THE TREE-LINED street used to be a relaxation haven for *illustrados* during the Spanish period.
PHOTO BY MANDY NAVASERO

Reposo: From dirt road ...

From page A19

property by acquiring land owned by the Jesuits, who were allegedly expelled by the King of Spain from the Philippines.

It was the Spanish Jesuits who ran the church, convent and primary school that comprised the original Parroquia de Macati, Gomez said.

The church, built on a hilly portion of the town, overlooked the Pasig River and Catholic cemetery.

Tramvia line

The church was believed to have been built near the spot where the St. Andrew's Parish Church now stands. The cemetery was located near a tramvia line that linked the town of Pasig.

Gomez said the old railway passed through what is now known today as J. P. Rizal. The line stretched from the Museo de Makati in Barangay Poblacion, down to Guadalupe Nuevo and Guadalupe Viejo, and toward Pateros and Pasig.

Reposo, which also stood for "resting place," "began as some kind of a native picnic ground (*lugar de asueto*) and a promenade that [led] to the riverbank road now called Mabini," Gomez related.

However, with the advent of the American invasion, Reposo gradually lost its popularity. "It faded away from memory along with its fire trees," he said.

Tree of enlightenment

Instead of the fancy horse-drawn carriages that ferried promenaders, the stretch is now full of a parade of cars caught in a traffic jam. The fire trees, meanwhile, have been replaced by decade-old Bo, the tree of enlightenment.

Dr. Ike Tolentino, a silviculturist or tree expert, said the Bo tree is ideal for the area because it thrives in tropical climates and is low-maintenance.

Reposo, however, has experienced some sort of revival in the past two years.

DR. IKE Tolentino, a silviculturist, talks about the Bo trees in the area.
ROMY HOMILLADA

The neighborhood has gained popularity for its art and photo galleries, furniture showrooms, chic restaurants, and a mural adorning one side of the street (*see related story at left*), making the stretch a promising art district.

"We want to make Reposo the art center of Makati," Eduardo Soler, art gallery owner and president of Grupo Reposo Inc., told the INQUIRER in an interview.

The non-profit organization, launched in March 2004, is composed of more than 30 business establishments in the area. Soler and his wife, Dori, Rose Marie Yenko and William Tan are among the group's pioneers.

Crossroad

Grupo Reposo Inc., according to Soler, was formed to promote the street as "a crossroad of the arts and design from Eastern and Western cultures."

Last year, the group launched the first street art festival, "Tibok Sining sa Reposo" with the support of Makati City Mayor Jejomar Binay and the National Commission for Culture and the Arts.

Art appreciation

This was followed by last month's "Pintahan at Musikahan sa Reposo," an activity which coincided with Makati's foundation anniversary, and was aimed at bolstering the group's dream to awaken people's appreciation for culture and arts.

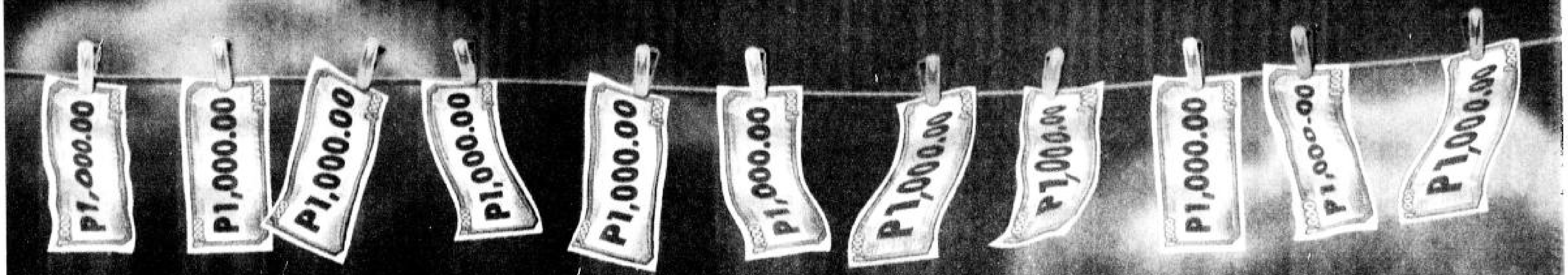
"We want to serve as a model for urban communities, encouraging them to have their own burst of soul through the visual arts, music and cultural events," the group said.

Not far from now, Grupo Reposo sees a "spillover" of the art district to other neighboring areas. "If that happens, then we have made the street a destination anew, where people could come when they visit Makati," Yenko said.

DID YOU KNOW?

Did you know that the "Scout" streets (like Scout Lozano and Scout Albano) in Quezon City were named after Filipino Boy Scouts? Streets in Barangay Laging Handa, Quezon City were named after the Filipino Boy Scouts who died on July 28, 1963, when the United Arab Airlines plane they were riding crashed into the Arabian Sea. The 24 Scouts were on their way to the 11th World Jamboree in Greece when tragedy struck.
Cyril Bonabonte, PDI Research

Labada, iniwan. Cash, napanalunan!



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GLOBAL Pinoy
Editor **Gerry Lirio**

This section is dedicated to Filipinos overseas toiling on land and at sea, in factories, in construction sites and in the homes of the world, and wherever

My absentee father, my super 'ninong'

IMPORTED shirts, shoes, chocolates, name it, the author has had it *"amoy America pa,"* thanks to his father Justo Camacho (above with his mother Rosalie) who has been working in the US for the past 20 years.

By Gian S. Camacho
Contributor

PESO DEPRECIATION ISN'T REALLY BAD NEWS for all Filipinos. There is a constantly growing number of Filipinos who pray that the peso would go down a little bit more. A huge chunk of these people belong to those who depend on OFW remittances, to those whom a depreciating peso means a larger allowance. greenbacks.

My father has been working abroad for 20 years now and I am what you can call, an OFW child. He left the country in 1986, when I was just one year old. I really have no idea how our father and son relationship was like when I was just a year old but my mother always tells me that the day he left, I wouldn't stop crying.

When I think about it now, I really had a very good start as a papa's boy but, things didn't go that way after he went away. I was left in the care of my mother.

I met him when I was 3

In 1988, when I was three years old, my dad returned to the country for his first vacation. When we came to meet him at the airport, I felt a bit weird after finally meeting the guy in the pictures that my mother would often identify as my "papa."

I really didn't quite understand what it meant for that guy in the picture to be my papa. I also didn't understand why I had to kiss and hug this stranger that I felt I had just met. After going home and checking out the *pasalubongs* he had for me in his *balikbayan* boxes, I quickly developed my own idea of what a father was. Feeling rapturous over the stuff he brought home for me, chocolates, toys, etc., I saw my father as some nice person who liked me a lot and gave me toys and candy. A lot like my favorite *ninong*, only better!

I also took note of the festive atmosphere that our house had everyday while he was around. It seemed like we were having a Christmas party in our house everyday. There were lots of food and cheerful relatives sharing stories in every corner of the house. We were like this for a month but toward the end of his vacation, my father turned gloomy.

When the day came for him to leave, he finally broke down and cried while we were saying our goodbyes in the airport. I won't forget the dragging motion of his feet when he entered the airport lobby that night.

During my grade school years, he would come home from time to time and his vacations were my most anticipated events. As the toys and candies kept flowing in during each of his vacations, my conception of my father as this "super *ninong*" became stronger. With his *pasalubongs*, I would always stand out in class in my Nikes, gadgets, or whatever hot things that you can only get in the United States that time. Without looking at my new stuff, my friends would always know whenever my father was around as soon as they catch a whiff of my new shirt's "*amoy-Amerika*."

Throughout those years, nothing could match the excitement brought to me by the aroma of goods flown in from abroad. I used to think that there was something in the States' water or air or maybe their detergents that made this famous smell but later on, I discovered that this odor is just brought about by an airplane's ventilation system.

At 15, I became a heavy smoker, cut classes for drinking sprees and got involved with the city's gangs and fraternities. My father had no idea what I was getting myself into and my mother kept from him whatever bad thing she discovered about me.

In my junior year, my father came home for another vacation. At this time, my grades were hitting record lows and my mom and I always got into fights over them. During my father's vacation, my mom and I had a very huge argument in front of my father, and in her rage, she told my dad about my debaucheries and involvement with other undesirable youths. I won't forget his reaction to it. He sat there with a blank face and just stared into space. That time, I couldn't figure out his emotions. He didn't get mad but he didn't cry either.

Like father, like son

When he went back to the States, he would call me from time to time and tell me to cut down on smoking and my drinking sprees but I wouldn't listen. I didn't see him as my father in the truest sense of the word because he wasn't like my friends' fathers. To me he was just some guy who goes home every two or three years and invades my personal space at home and leaves again after a month or so.

I managed to finish high school despite my poor grades. And because my expenses increased more than twofold in college, my father had an even harder time going home. Living very far from my home and my mother for long periods somehow made me experience what was it like to be in the shoes of my father who like me, lived away from his loved ones and worked day in and day out. I also realized that he was in a worse position since he was living in a foreign land.

In Manila, I was able to meet all sorts of people, from the ridiculously rich to the embarrassingly poor. It was my interactions with the less fortunate that taught me a lot more about appreciating the things that I had.

Because my father wasn't always around when I was growing up, I shouldn't expect him to give everything that a full-time father could give. I should be thankful instead because given the many years of hard work and loneliness he has gone through for us. Not seeing his son grow up wasn't really his fault. Because going away was his best chance to be a good father to me given his situation. I realized that I was actually the one who wasn't doing my part. I decided to mend my ways and at least try to give something back to my father who for the past years never got anything despite of everything he gave me.

I soon began to rehabilitate myself. I started caring about my grades again and paid more attention to what was happening in my family. I am now in my senior year and I am very proud to say that I went on a complete turn around. I have also began playing an active part in my family by taking up some of my father's responsibilities such as escorting my mom in gatherings. I was able to give something back to him, a son that he lost for a while.

Understanding father

Last summer, my father came home for a five week vacation and I spent most of my free time at home with my family. Unlike most guys my age who cringe at the thought of displaying his affection for his parents in public, I never thought twice about giving him a hug or a peck on the cheek in front of other people whenever I went out of the house during his stay here. Nowadays, I always tell him I love you whenever I get the chance. I also had this enlightening conversation with him when he was still here. I told him that I was planning to take up graduate studies and my education would cost a bit more because I wasn't sure if I'll get accepted in a good university that had lower tuition fees. I asked him if he could still support me. My father isn't really known for his brains but he gave me the smartest answer an uncertain son could ever hear. He told me that he'll hang on as long as I could hang on as well. I'm not sure if he really meant to inspire me with his words but they did. With his short reply, I realized that my life was really in my hands. Whatever happens to me is really up to me and my father will support me every step of the way. I loved him a little more after that conversation. My father is back in the States right now and will be back for my graduation next year.

I started this sharing of my experiences as an OFW's child with people who pray for peso depreciation. I am praying for it to appreciate even more. Because a devaluing peso is an indicator of an ailing economy that cannot give enough jobs that provide adequate income for parents to take care of the bills and send their kids to school, an economy that pushes its citizens to leave their families behind and look elsewhere for better job opportunities.

Being an OFW's child is hard and requires a lot of strength to go through its many challenges without crumbling. You may get all your material needs but it can never be at par with having full-time parents watching and guiding you throughout your life. I don't want to see the dollar go up a peso more.

Music keeps fotog good company in Beijing

By Ernie U. Sarmiento
PDI Chief Photographer

BOUND FOR TIANANMEN SQUARE. Cortes sometimes plays hide-seek with the police to take human interest photos of people and places in Beijing. REM ZAMORA

THE MELANCHOLIC VOICE OF MICHAEL Frank's "Tiger in the Rain" plays full volume on the stereo. The sound is crisp and clear as if the singer is performing live in the living room of a spacious apartment atop one of the new high-rise buildings in China's capital city of Beijing.

Welcome to the world of avowed audiophile and veteran photojournalist Claro Cortes IV of the Reuters International News Agency. "It relaxes me. I listen to different genres and playing them loudly makes me appreciate the music more. The vocals and the instruments—whether rock, jazz, classical, OPM—come to life when played loudly. I am lucky I have not received complaints from my neighbors," he said.

Cortes moved to Beijing last year from Shanghai where he was stationed since 2002. Before China, he was in Singapore, Hong Kong and Vietnam .

Invited by the police

"There are many restrictions here (for news coverage) compared to the Philippines," he said. There is no real freedom of the press. Journalists can only cover events when allowed by the government."

He had been invited by the police and ordered to delete his photos from his digital camera. They were "human interest" shots of ordinary Chinese on the streets.

"I have yet to experience having my equipment confiscated like other photojournalists covering disasters or accidents that government painstakingly try to cover up. But, in my daily coverage, police patrols occasionally yell at me with gesture not to take photos," he said.

But growing capitalism is prompting the country to be more open.

Cortes observed that more events were being allowed to be documented. "Slowly the government realizes the need for the outside world to know developments in the country particularly those that depict China as an advanced nation in terms of technology," he said.

Cortes also feels authorities may be easing up because China is hosting the Olympic Games in 2008. During the anniversary of the 1989 Tienanmen massacre last month, Cortes freely took photos of policemen arresting Chinese protesters.

Many foreign tourists in the square were also taking pictures and not a single one was hauled off to the police station. "You cannot do that (shoot pictures) a few months ago," Cortes said.

Cortes is one of six Claros in his family. His grandfather was Claro Sr. and his father, Claro Jr. His three brothers are Claro III, Claro V, and Claro VI).

Photography started as a hobby. He took photographs of Manila Bay's famous sunset and of friends, family members and other people.

UP days

Cortes later joined Sinag, the publication of the College of Arts and Sciences of the University of the Philippines in Diliman, then moved to the Philippine Collegian, UP's official student newspaper.

He covered student activities on campus, often marching with student activists during protest actions against Philippine strongman Ferdinand Marcos at Liwasang Bonifacio and Mendiola, documenting peaceful assemblies and violent dispersal.

Doing freelance work, he contributed pictures to national publications like Mr & Ms and Who magazines and international news agencies. He later became a regular photo stringer for United Press International (UPI), which was eventually acquired by Reuters.

Cortes has won several awards, including Best News Photo for campus journalism from the National Press Club of the Philippines in 1985. In 1987, his photo essay "Labor Pains," a documentation of workers' struggle in a picket line, won him the first Willie Vicoy Photojournalism Fellowship to the University of Missouri in Columbia.

He took part in the prestigious Missouri Photo Workshop and "The Flying Short Course" for photographers and cameramen in Denver, Colorado. He won recently the grand prize in the "Beijing: Olympic City" photo contest.

Moving to HK

Cortes joined Reuters, one of the world's biggest news agencies, in 1987.

In 1992, he was posted in Hanoi, Vietnam's capital, where he set up Reuters picture and television operation. He was among the first journalists allowed to reside and cover stories in Hanoi, witnessing the opening up of Vietnam to the outside world and the normalization of ties with the United States.

He then went to Hong Kong until the former British colony reverted to China in 1997. Moving to Singapore later, he became senior sub-editor/photographer in Reuters Asia headquarters.

On his days-off in Beijing, usually weekends, Cortes usually just relaxes in his apartment. "I just stay home listening to my CDs and surfing the Net," he said.

He has a Chinese-made vacuum tube amplifier with a forgettable brand name but producing pure, crisp sound quality. He also acquired a Denon amplifier receiver, a pair of Bowers & Wilkins 603· S3 floorstander speakers, a Marantz and Pioneer CD players and an extra Sony CD/DVD player.

With the loud music, even longing for home is temporarily forgotten.

Where to put your dollars

By Francisco J. Colayco, *Contributor*

JOYCE, AN OFW WIFE CAME TO SEE me the other day and asked how she can best manage her monthly allowance remitted by her husband. Her husband wants her to get into some form of small business. She asked me: "What is the best business I can get into with this limited amount of $300 or P15,000 per month, or a total of P180,000 in one year? Is this enough capital ?"

Ellen, a former OFW who wanted to be self-employed, wrote me, "FJC, I invested my life savings in a balloon making business and lost all my capital in six months. Can you tell me how or why this happened"? When I asked her questions, she told me that she was really into cooking but that her auntie had strongly recommended balloon making because she had enough money to start such a business. It was a good business because she has a friend that does well in that business, she was told.

The cause of failure was quite obvious. First, she took the advice of one who was clearly not a capable business advisor. Second, she decided based on the amount of capital she had readily available. Third and the biggest mistake of all is that she went into a business which she did not know anything about and where she had no real personal interest and no technical capability to contribute.

Joyce wants to know what her business options are. She is an undergraduate in accounting and had worked with an appliance sales and service company.

She had also worked as part-time bookkeeper and customer service in-charge for sometime. She told me she really enjoyed the customer relations part of her experience and that she was also very much at home in food related activities.

Joyce would probably do well in food or other service type businesses. The question is, what type of business and will she have the necessary capital to do it?

I gave Joyce the list of Filipino franchisors and its broad range of small businesses available. I encouraged her to seriously consider a food-stall business, which had an available franchise near her home.

Another good thing about franchise is the business training included in the package that usually lasts for three months. But she would need to pay 30 percent (subject to negotiation with the franchisor) or about P50,000 as soon as she signs the agreement. The franchise business projected minimum of net cash earnings of P10,000 and possibly up to P18,000 per month.

Here is what I advised Joyce to do:

- Validate the franchisor's claims through the Association of Filipino Franchisors, Inc;
- Validate the actual experience by directly interviewing the FIRST Franchisee,
- Find out if the franchisor has any pending legal cases with any of the franchisees, and if there is any, find out why;
- Secure serious legal advice on the merits and demerits of the franchise agreement. Make sure that she is satisfied with all the provisions of the franchise agreement, particularly on her option to terminate agreement without any difficulty.
- Be aware that anything not written in the agreement, even if promised by the franchisor, may not be fulfilled.
- Make sure that all the sources for funding are in place.

Now, how will Joyce raise the P200,000 for the franchise? First of all, Joyce has a very good source of future cash flow. Her husband is able to send her P15,000 every month and Joyce tells me she can prove that this regular remittance will be made for at least three more years. Joyce can now negotiate with the franchisor for installment payments on the franchise fees. First, she can pay the down payment of P50,000. Second, she could offer to pledge the assets to be acquired by the franchise business itself, and, if necessary, she can also offer to pledge the future remittance of her husband until the full franchise fees are paid. Under this arrangement, the total capital requirements of P200,000 can be fully met in less than one year.

What if Joyce can only use P5,000 per month to invest in this business? Yes, but this will require some detailed negotiations with the franchisor and some funders like the Small Business Lending Corp. Some franchisors will even guarantee the loan of the franchisee so that Joyce can get started earlier. This is good debt in action, the proper use of leverage.

I told Joyce that in any business, there are no success guarantees but there are ways to reduce the risks. If she at least follows the advice already given above, she has a good chance of success.

The author is an entrepreneur, venture developer and financial advisor. E-mail info@colaycofoundation.com.

Human transfer of bird flu confirmed in Indonesia

ROME—AN INDONESIAN WHO DIED AFTER catching the A(H5N1) bird flu virus from his 10-year-old son represents the first confirmed case of human-to-human transmission of the disease, a World Health Organization investigation of an unusual family cluster has concluded, the agency said Friday.

The WHO investigators also discovered that the virus had mutated slightly when the son had the disease, although not in any way that would allow the virus to pass more readily among people.

"Yes, it is slightly altered, but in a way that viruses commonly mutate," said Dick Thompson, a spokesperson for the agency in Geneva. "But that didn't make it more transmissible or cause more severe disease."

The greater importance of the slightly modified virus is that it allowed researchers from the WHO and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the United States to document that the virus almost certainly was passed from person to person.

In previous cases where human-to-human transmission was suspected, researchers could not test samples from the patients, or the virus in the patients was the same as that in poultry in the area.

Scientists have long said the A(H5N1) virus, which has killed hundreds of millions of birds worldwide, does not spread easily to humans or among them. But they have worried that it might mutate to acquire that ability, setting off a devastating pandemic. More than 200 people have contracted bird flu worldwide, almost all of them after very close contact with infected birds.

International health officials have been in Indonesia for much of the past month, investigating a family outbreak that affected seven relatives in Kubu Sembilang, a remote village in the mountainous Karo district of Sumatra. Six of the seven died, and one is still hospitalized.

Indonesia has been struggling all year to control bird flu outbreaks among poultry. But the family on Sumatra had no known direct contact with sick birds, although the first to die was a woman who sold vegetables in a market that also sold birds. *NYT*

World slums set for huge growth, UN forum told

VANCOUVER, CANADA—A HUGE CHUNK of urban growth around the world will be concentrated in slums that will become a magnet for terrorists and crime, the UN World Urban Forum was warned as it closed Friday.

If left unchecked, slums will become "centers of deprivation and instability," Inga Bjork-Klevby, assistant UN secretary general, told one meeting on the future of cities at the forum.

The State of the World Cities report presented at the conference said that 38 percent of urban growth will be in slums, and that by 2020 six of 10 people in the world will live in cities.

Clive Harridge, president of Britain's Town and Planning Institute, warned that leaving slums to fester will increase security threats and that urban terrorism "is having an increasing impact on cities, and all projections suggest urban political violence will continue to escalate." "Cities not only suffer the effects of terrorism, but if their unplanned growth leads to marginalized people, that can lead to terrorism itself," said Harridge.

He warned that slums and wealthy suburbs in Westernized cites, marked by sprawl and consumption of resources at a much higher rate than the world average, are equally unsustainable, and their growth is a cause of climate change.

Many speakers at the conference said governments and agencies must involve populations in the answers to solve the problems.

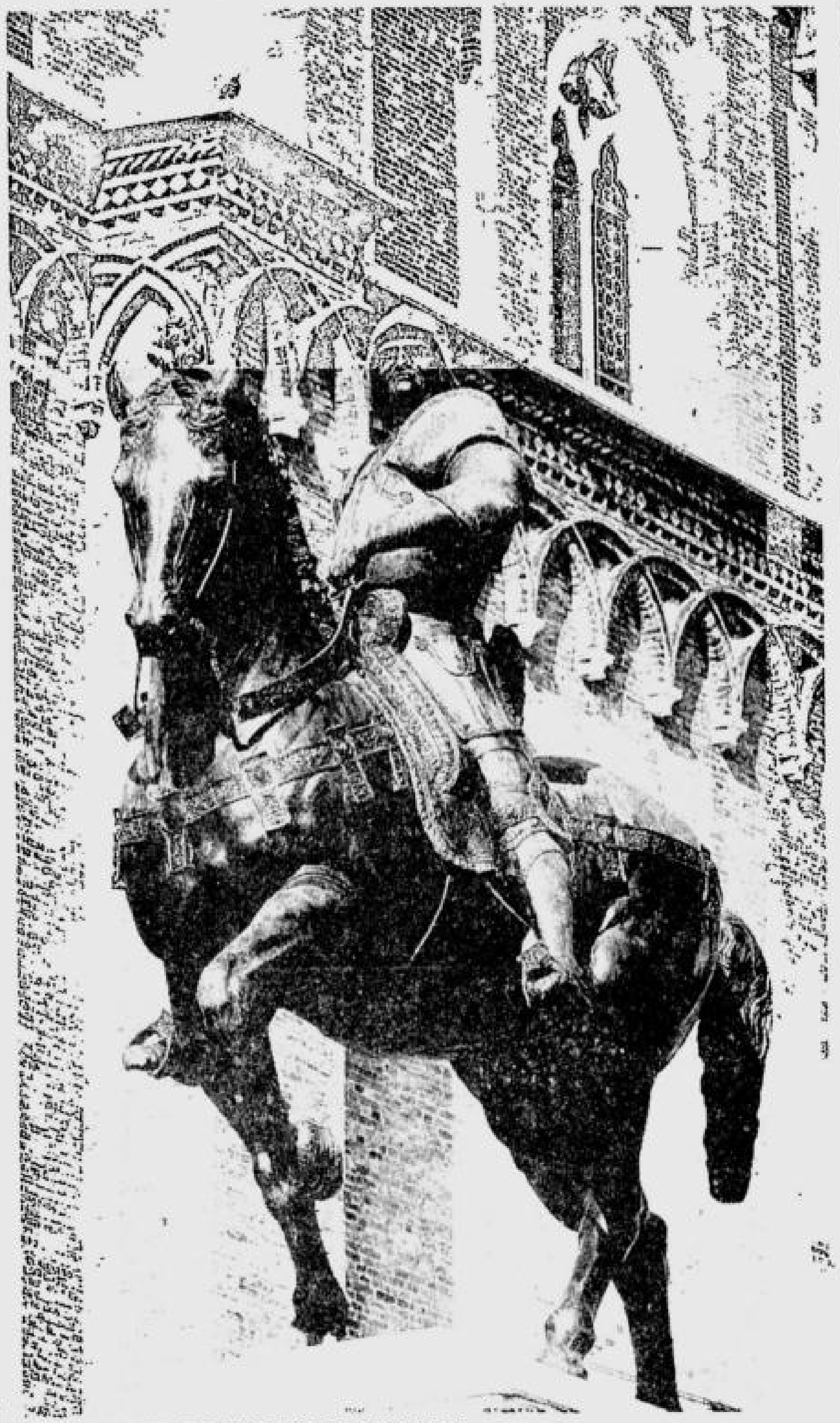
"We are fed up with being the subject of the agenda," said Rose Molokoane of the South African Homeless People's Federation and Slum Dwellers International.

"We are fed up with just sitting down and seeing government doing every thing for us ... give us land, give us security of tenure." Global funding agencies need to change how they operate to improve slums, said David Satterthwaite of the British-based International Institute for Environment and Development.

Most agencies give money to central governments "in the name of administrative convenience," he said, while adding that funds should go directly to small projects "to support the initiatives of grass roots organizations." The next World Urban Forum will be held in two years in Nanjing, China, where the pace of urbanization is among the world's fastest.

There are already 600 cities in China, compared to 220 cities 25 years ago, said Chinese researcher Xuemei Bai, of the Japan-based Institute for Global Environmental Strategies.

"This enormous transformation is not going to stop or to be reversed," she warned, and so China has to overcome its challenges of extreme pollution and the loss of agricultural areas to urban development. *AFP*



RESTORED AFTER THREE YEARS
The "Condottiero" equestrian statue of Bartolomeo Colleoni, which stands in front of the Campo San Giovanni e Paolo in Venice, unveiled June 23 after three years of restoration, thanks to World Monuments Fund. AFP

US Treasury defends secret money tracking

WASHINGTON—US TREASURY SECRETARY John Snow on Friday defended a secret program for monitoring financial transactions, calling it "government at its best" and a valuable aid for fighting terrorism.

For nearly five years since the Sept. 11 2001 terror attacks, Treasury has been tapping into records of the Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunications (SWIFT) for evidence of potential activity by terror groups.

Despite Treasury's efforts to keep it quiet, the New York Times laid the program out in detail on Friday, forcing Treasury to confirm it while complaining about the revelation.

"As part of our efforts to track the funds of terrorists, we are confirming that we have subpoenaed records on terrorist-related transactions from SWIFT," Treasury Under Secretary Stuart Levey told a hastily called news conference.

"The legal basis for this subpoena is routine and absolutely clear," he added. Levey said it was "a grave loss" that the surveillance program had been revealed but indicated that it will continue.

"I think that this program still ... has the potential to still be powerful," Levey said.

Democrats on Capitol Hill blasted the program as a threat to Americans' privacy and an example of the Bush administration's efforts to expand the power of the executive branch. But White House spokesperson Tony Snow said it wanted to "shut off the spigot" to block terror groups moving money.

Snow said the surveillance program was producing results.

"By following the money, we've been able to locate operatives, we've been able to locate their financiers, we've been able to chart the terrorist networks and we've been able to bring the terrorists to justice," he said.

SWIFT is a co-operative owned by the approximately 7,800 financial institutions in more than 200 countries that use it.

Levey indicated that some tens of thousands of transactions that have passed through SWIFT have been examined. Reuters

26 journalists killed worldwide this year

SWEDISH cameraman Martin Adler on a rooftop in Baghdad in this December 2005 photo. Adler was killed June 23, in Mogadishu. REUTERS

PARIS—A SWEDISH JOURNALIST gunned down in lawless Somalia Friday brought to more than 20 the number of journalists killed worldwide this year, as they face increasing danger and risk of being targeted trying to do their jobs.

Martin Adler, a Swedish photographer and reporter, became the 26th journalist killed in 2006, according to a tally by the Paris-based Reporters without Borders (Reporters sans Frontieres, RSF). Another 12 media assistants have also lost their lives this year, RSF added.

"This was an appalling murder, one that turns journalists into pawns in the hands of rival armed clans that use such crimes in their battle for power," the press freedom group said in a statement about the latest killing in Somalia.

The journalist's most dangerous assignment remains Iraq where half of this year's killings took place, making it the deadliest war for reporters since World War II, according to RSF.

In the past two months alone, a British cameraman and a sound technician working for the US broadcaster CBS were killed in May while traveling with a US military convoy that came under attack in Baghdad.

Early this month, two Iraqi journalists working for local television channel Al-Nahrain TV were found dead in a canal after being stopped on their way home by gunmen dressed in police uniforms. AFP

Aaron Spelling, prolific US TV producer, dies

LOS ANGELES—LEGENDARY TELEVISION producer Aaron Spelling, who launched a string of star-making global hits such as Dynasty, Charlie's Angels and Beverly Hills, 90210, died of cancer on Friday. He was 83.

"Mr. Spelling died at 6:25 p.m. this afternoon, he was in his home in Beverly Hills with his wife Candy and son Randy at his bedside. I don't know if his daughter Tori was with him at this moment," his publicist Kevin Sasaki said.

According to the Guinness Book of World Records, Spelling was "the most prolific TV producer of all time," producing more than 5,000 hours of television programming, including more than 300 hours of made-for-television movies and at least a dozen films.

He produced some 200 television shows from the 1960s to date, also including The Mod Squad, Starsky and Hutch, The Love Boat, Vegas, Hart to Hart, T.J. Hooker, Fantasy Island, Hotel, Melrose Place, Seventh Heaven and Charmed, People magazine noted in its online edition.

Dynasty, the prime-time soap opera starring Joan Collins, Linda Evans and John Forsythe, which was shown round the world, became the most widely watched series in television history.

Spelling, Leonard Goldberg and Mike Nichols joined forces in 1976 to make the domestic drama Family, a rare critical success for Spelling, often blasted for making escapist television, short on substance and long on pretty locations and pretty people. Family won four Emmy Awards for acting. *AFP*

AARON Spelling poses for a portrait in 1996. AP

Zawahiri vows to avenge Zarqawi

شهيد الأمة
وأمير الاستشهاديين

AN IMAGE grab taken from Qatar-based Al-Jazeera television, June 23 shows al-Qaida number two Ayman al-Zawahiri vowing to avenge the death of the network's Iraq frontman Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, killed in a US air raid June 7. AFP

DUBAI—AL-QAEDA NUMBER TWO AYMAN al-Zawahiri vowed in a videotape on Al-Jazeera television Friday to avenge the death of the terror network's Iraq frontman Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, killed in a US air raid June 7.

"Yes O Bush, none of us is killed without us avenging him, with the help of God," said Zawahiri, addressing US President George W. Bush to the backdrop of a picture of Zarqawi.

"Do you remember, O Bush, how the lion of Islam, the mujahed (holy warrior) Osama bin Laden, God keep him, swore that America will not be able to dream of security until it (security) becomes a reality in Palestine and all Muslim lands?" Zawahiri said.

He was referring to al-Qaida leader and mastermind of the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks on the United States Osama bin Laden, the world's most wanted man.

"Try in vain to dream of security," Zawahiri told Bush in his first comments on Zarqawi's death, despite having appeared on two videos since the killing of al-Qaida's Iraq chief.

"As to the Americans, I tell them: Yes, the courageous hero and martyrdom-seeker Abu Musab, God rest his soul, was killed," the Egyptian-born Zawahiri said.

"Tell me how many of you really died (in Iraq), how much your economy lost and how the morale of your soldiers is crumbling ...

"Bush is lying to you when he says that you will be victorious if you kill Osama bin Laden, (the leader of Afghanistan's Taliban movement) Mullah Omar and the members of Al-Qaeda and the Taliban," Zawahiri said.

"The lying addict (Bush) is hiding from you the disaster you face. You are not facing individuals or organizations; you are up against the nation of Islam, fired by the spirit of jihad (holy war)," he added.

Zawahiri blasted Iraqi Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki and US Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad for being "keen to be the first to announce news (of Zarqawi's death) to the world," saying Maliki "trades with Islam" for power and describing Khalilzad as "the Afghan apostate."

Not only does Maliki seek to prevent "resistance to the occupier," but "he fought the *mujahedeen* (holy warriors) under Bush's crusader banner," Zawahiri said.

Zarqawi "died under bombardment" and not in hiding, and never shed his "explosives belt," said Zawahiri, who was shown flanked by a machinegun in the footage. AFP

US stumped on whether to raise wages

By Kelly Evans

WASHINGTON—THE HEATED DEBATE IN Congress this week over whether to raise the US minimum wage from $5.15 an hour has divided not only politicians but also economists, who differ over whether it helps or hurts the working poor.

Democrats—who saw their proposal to raise the federal minimum wage to $7.25 an hour by January 2009 go down in defeat this week—say such a pay increase would have given 6.5 million Americans $4,400 more to spend each year.

"Every day the minimum wage is not increased, it continues to lose value and working families fall further behind," said Sen. Edward Kennedy, the Massachusetts Democrat whose amendment was voted down on Wednesday along mostly party lines.

But many economists argue that forcing employers to raise the amount they pay entry-level workers may constrain hiring, particularly given competition from low-wage foreign nations.

The minimum wage has not increased since September 1997, although Democrats have tried several times since then to pass legislation. Only in the 1980s was there a longer period of inaction, during the presidencies of Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush, the father of President George W. Bush.

"Congress is on track to tie the longest record for ignoring the policy," said minimum-wage supporter Jared Bernstein, an economist at the liberal-leaning Economic Policy Institute in Washington. "Thankfully, states are stepping up to the plate."

While he was president, Bill Clinton gave states the power to set their minimum wages above the federal level.

So far, 21 states and the District of Columbia have done so. In two of those states, Arkansas and Michigan, higher minimum wage rates will go into effect in October, according to the Web site of the National Conference of State Legislatures. In Arkansas, the minimum wage will go up to $6.25 an hour, while in Michigan, it will rise to $6.95, effective Oct. 1. *Reuters*

US 'domestic terrorists' haled to court

MIAMI—US ATTORNEY GENERAL ALBERTO GONZALES said Friday that "domestic terrorists" could become as big a threat as al-Qaida, as seven men appeared in court accused of plotting to blow up the Sears Tower in Chicago.

The five Americans and two foreigners appeared in court in Miami, a day after their arrest. Six were detained in Miami and a seventh in Atlanta, Georgia.

They were caught after approaching a Federal Bureau of Investigation undercover agent who they believed was an al-Qaida member, prosecutors said.

According to the charges, the seven had sworn allegiance to al-Qaida, which carried out the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks on the United States.

The leader of the group asked the undercover agent for weapons, equipment and money to finance a "war against the US government," the charges said, adding that the group had pledged to "kill all the devils we can."

However, US Muslim groups denied the plotters were Muslims and said they were members of a cult.

The seven face four terrorism conspiracy counts, including a plot to blow up the 442-meter-high Sears Tower in Chicago, the third largest building in the world, and the FBI regional headquarters and other buildings in Miami.

According to the charges, the Miami group, which called itself the "Seas of David," had studied the 442-meter-high Sears Tower, the third-largest building in the world, and other targets.

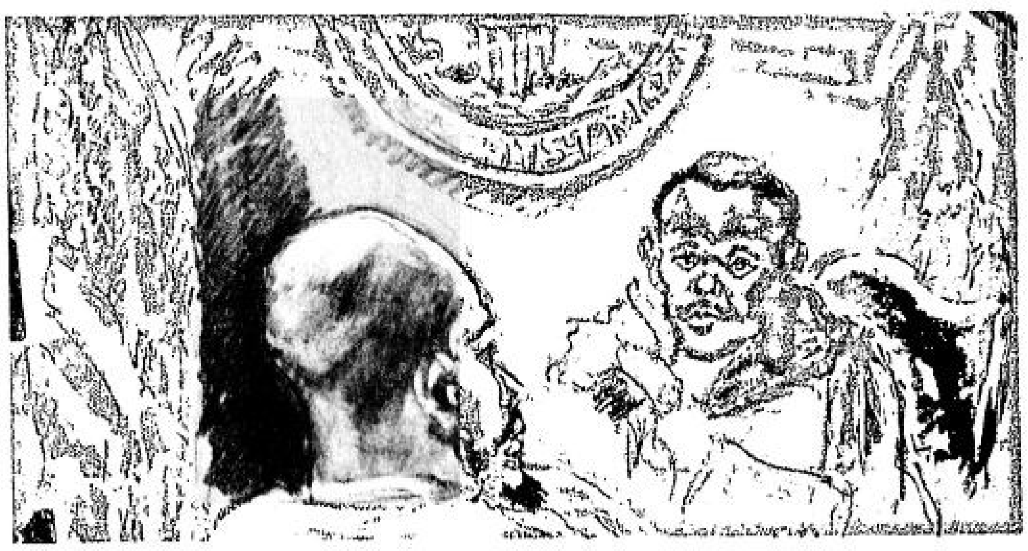
The charges said that its alleged leader, Narseal Batiste, recruited individuals for an operation "which included a plot to destroy by explosives the Sears Tower."

Batiste told the undercover agent that he was "organizing a mission to build an 'Islamic Army' in order to wage jihad." He requested money, boots, uniforms, machine guns, radios and vehicles.

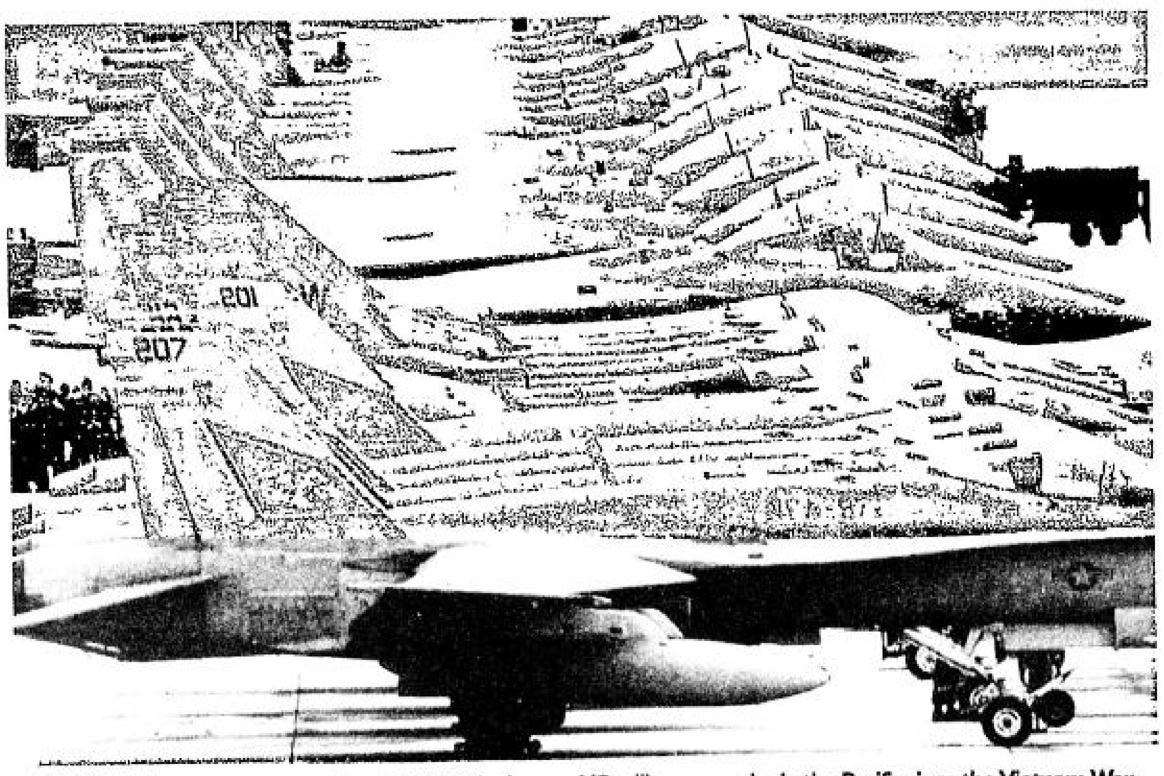
Officials said that no weapons or explosives had been seized as of late Thursday.

The arrests took place in Liberty City, a poor neighborhood in northern Miami, where residents said the men appeared to be part of a cult of at least a dozen people, sleeping in a warehouse, dressing in military-like clothing and doing exercises.

AFP



ARTIST'S rendering shows Narseal Batiste, one of seven men arrested in an alleged plot to bomb the Sears Tower in Chicago standing before federal judge Patrick White June 23 in Miami. AP



US FIGHTER jets lined up in "Valiant Shield," the largest US military exercise in the Pacific since the Vietnam War, meant to demonstrate to N. Korea the US' ability to "quickly amass" a huge combat force should the need arise. AP

Asia likely to cheer if US strikes down N. Korea missile, analysts say

TAIPEI, TAIWAN—MOST ASIAN nations would cheer—some louder than others—if the US knocks down a long-range missile tested by North Korea. But a failed attempt to intercept it would send serious shivers through the region, analysts say.

Many countries in Asia still rely on US military might to keep the peace in the complex region—home to some of the world's most dangerous potential flash points: the Taiwan Strait, India-Pakistan and the Koreas.

So Washington is being closely watched in Asia as it deals with North Korea's possible preparation to test-fire a Taepodong-2 missile, which may be able to hit the American mainland.

The US believes the missile is being readied for a launch.

Washington has said it would pursue diplomatic means to stop the test, but there has been wide speculation the US would use its fledgling missile defense system to try striking down the weapon.

Would the move evoke support, fear, condemnation or silent relief from Asia?

K.S. Nathan, a regional security analyst at Singapore's Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, said Asia would be pleased to see the US stop the test.

"I think the general consensus would be to see that North Korea is disciplined in some way, or prevented from launching the missile," Nathan said.

But those who wouldn't be clapping in public might include South Korea and China, some analysts said.

"South Korea probably wouldn't support it openly," said Kenneth Wells, director of the Center for Korean Studies at Australian National University. "There would be some division in the government, but if they were forced to make a comment one way or another, I suspect it would be that it wasn't a helpful thing to do."

China would also frown on a US attempt to hit the missile, said Andrew Yang, a senior analyst at the Chinese Center for Advanced Policy Studies in Taiwan's capital, Taipei.

"It would mean that the US is adopting a confrontational strategy against North Korea, and that goes against China's policy of using dialogue," Yang said. "The bottom line for China is that they don't want any escalation of tension in the region."

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WHAT'S INSIDE

France flexes its muscles /A29

Sunday SPORTS

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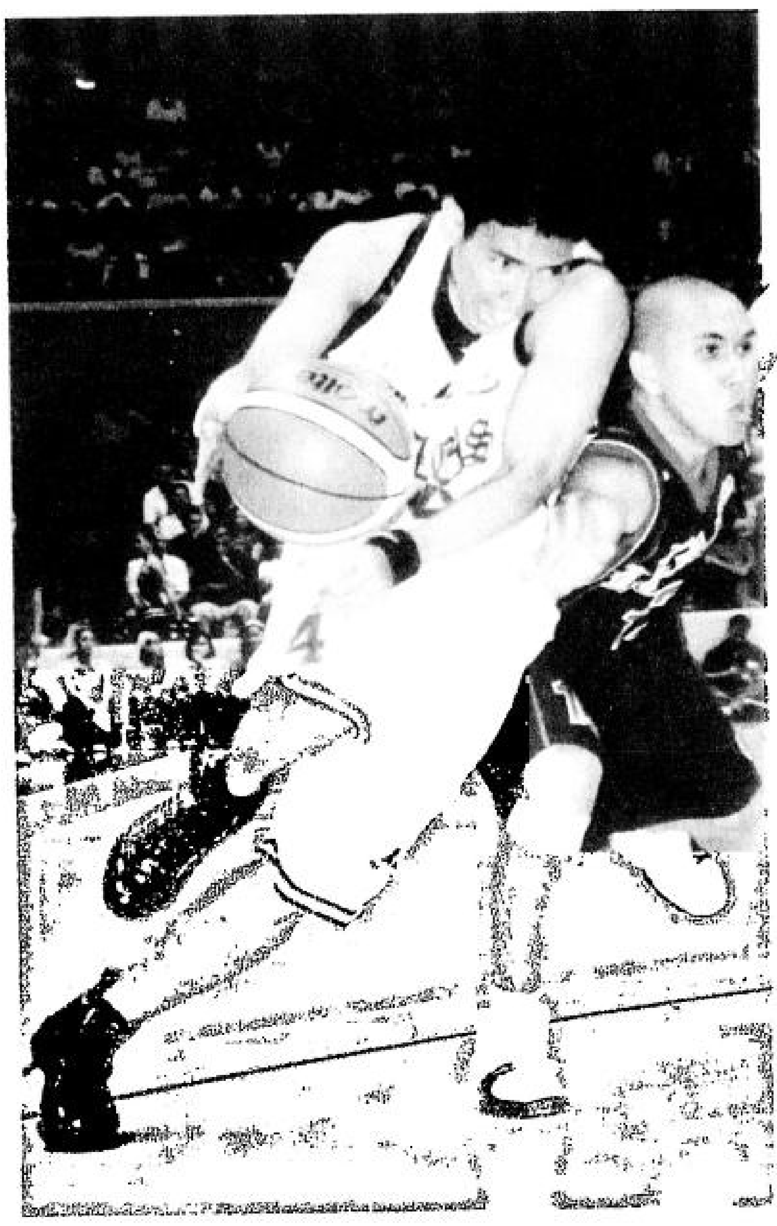
Heat celebrate a fulfilled promise /A28

Hot start for Knights, Cardinals



ST. BENILDE'S Francisco Cadiz tries to drive past Letran's Rey Dangcal (right). AUGUST DELA CRUZ

GAMES TOMORROW
(Ninoy Aquino Stadium)
12 nn—JRU vs San Beda (Jrs)
1:30 p.m.—San Sebastian vs Perpetual (Jrs)
3 p.m.—St. Benilde vs Letran (Jrs)

By Marc Anthony Reyes

LETRAN COULDN'T HAVE chosen a more fitting occasion to declare its title-retention bid.

Right at the start of the season, in front of a capacity crowd at the Araneta Coliseum, the defending champion crushed host St. Benilde, 65-44, in the NCAA men's basketball competition yesterday.

Making the most of what was left of their revamped lineup, the Knights employed a fast-paced, highly aggressive game that caught the Blazers dumbfounded the entire time.

Team captain Boyet Bautista held the Knights together by scoring 16 points, hauling eight rebounds, issuing four assists and stealing once as they start their bid for a 17th title.

"We were struggling but I think they struggled even worse," said Letran coach Louie Alas, whose team survived the exodus of its stars Jonathan Aldave, JP Alcaraz, Mark Andaya, Eric Rodriguez and Jonathan Piñera to the Philippine Basketball League.

In the second game, Jofferson Gonzalez scored five of his six points in the final minute as Mapua defused Philippine Christian University's last-ditch uprising for a 47-42 victory.

After Gonzalez's basket made it 44-38 for the Cardinals in the last minute, the Dolphins, last year's runners-up, clawed back with two quick twinners from Jason Castro and Beau Belga to threaten at 42-44.

But the veteran Cardinal proved steady in the foul line, making three of his four charities to hand Mapua the win.

Assistant coach Joel Dualan called the shots for the Dolphins, but resigned coach Junel Baculi was seen seated behind the PCU bench. He was reportedly being retained as team consultant and intended to be reinstalled as head coach after the first round.

However, Dualan stressed that Baculi was there as a "supporter" and made it through the entrance with a ticket.

The former PBA enforcer added that he was disappointed at the way his key players performed especially Gabby Espinas, who could only make nine points.

"If that's the way they will play, making only 30 points in three quarters, then any coach would have a hypertension," said Dualan in allusion to Baculi's reason for quitting.

The Knights limited the Blazers to just six points in the first quarter and never looked back from thereon.

It might have been a different story if the Blazers managed to make their 14 free throws in the first half. But St. Benilde just connected eight, failing to take advantage of the Knights' fouling frenzy.

Bautista fired three triples and ran the Knights' fastbreaks that yielded 11 points and left the Blazers' defense in disarray. That more than made up for the absence of Aaron Aban, who failed to see action yesterday due to a wrist injury.

Ronald Reyes sank three free throws in the last 18 seconds as Perpetual coasted to a 73-67 victory over San Sebastian in the third game.

Nigerian Samuel Ekwe scored 13 points, including three thunderous dunks, to lead San Beda to an 81-51 rout of Jose Rizal University in the nightcap.

The scores:

First Game (Srs)

LETRAN 65—Bautista 16, Jazul 12, Quinday 9, Balneg 8, Guevarra 5, Dangcal 4, Faundo 3, Melegrito 3, Mondragon 2, Realista 2, Foronda 1, Daa 0, Ranises 0, Del Rosario 0.

ST. BENILDE 44—M. Urra 15, Robles 9, Aldover 5, Johnston 3, Manding 3, Manlapaz 2, Layug 2, Devarras 2, D. Urra III 2, Sevilla 1, Trillo 0, Umlas 0, Libunao 0, Cadiz 0.

Quarters: 20-6, 28-14, 52-27, 65-44

Second Game

MAPUA 47—Del Rosario 10, Mazo 7, Tiongco 7, Gonzalez 6, Co 6, Dela Peña 6, Pascual 4, Sumalinog 1, Pascual 0, Guillermo 0, Palomique 0.

PCU 42—Espinas 9, Castro 8, Belga 7, Santos 4, Navarro 4, Garrido 3, David 2, Salem 2, Amparado 2, Chien 1, Vidal 0, Hermosa 0, Javelosa 0.

Quarters: 14-10, 22-19, 30-30, 47-42

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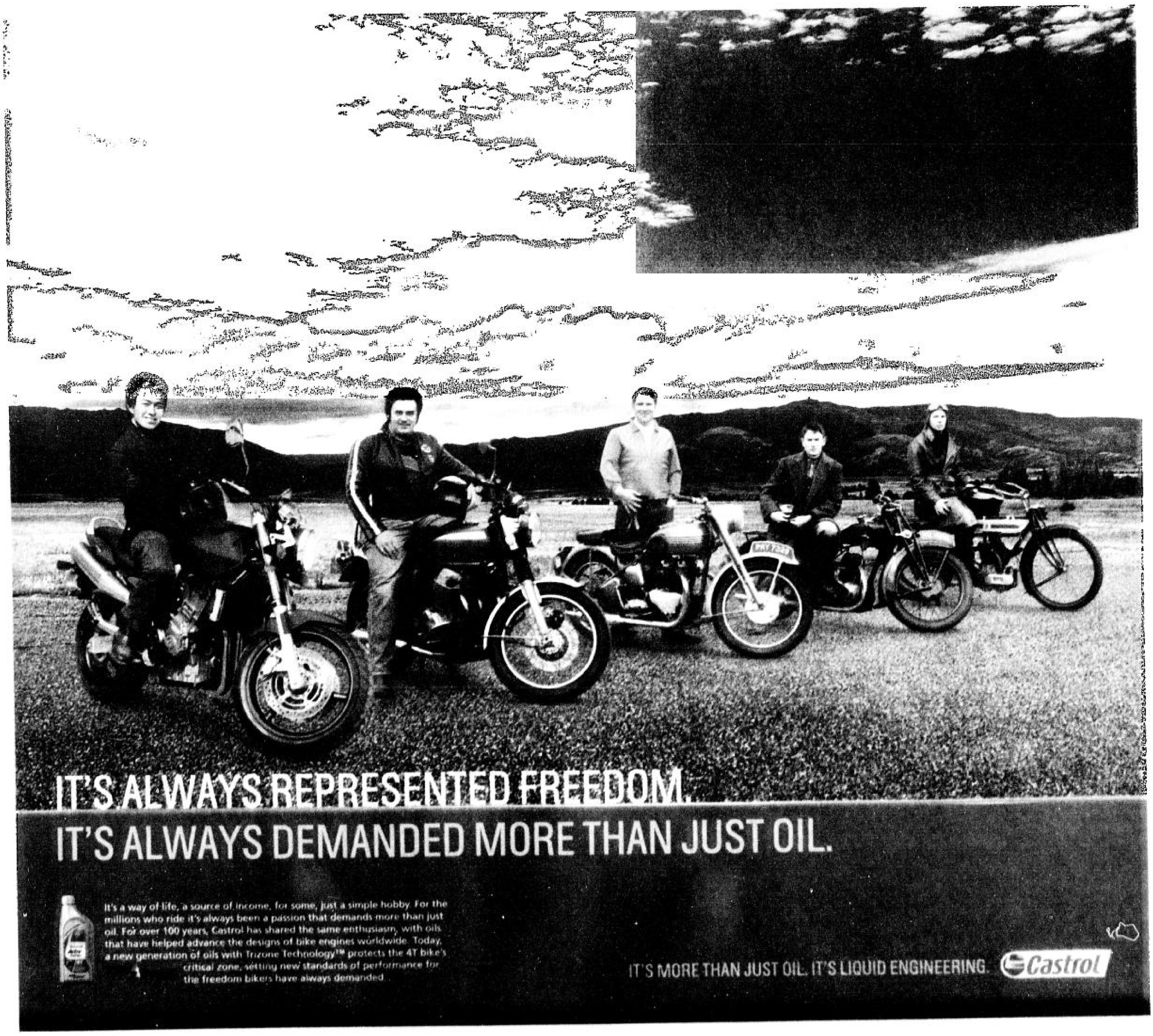

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V-LEAGUE

Lyceum stuns AdU; La Salle checks slide

STANDINGS	W	L
La Salle	12	2
Adamson	9	5
SSC	8	6
Lyceum	8	7
FEU	5	9

GAMES TODAY
(Blue Eagle Gym)
12 nn.—SSC vs FEU
2 p.m.—DLSU vs AdU

LYCEUM RELishes playing the spoiler's role.

Already out of the championship race, Lyceum pulled off a thrilling 14-25, 32-30, 25-23, 18-25, 15-10 victory over Adamson yesterday in the penultimate playdate of the semifinal round of the Shakey's V-League at the Blue Eagle gym.

The Lady Pirates, who won their last four games after a woeful start, let Adamson star Cherry Macatangay's 33-point performance go to waste with a steady game in the deciding set.

Lyceum wound up with an 8-7 card and will fight for third place against the loser of the looming duel for the second finals slot between Adamson and San Sebastian.

Ma. Concepcion Legaspi, the third best scorer in the league, played true to form and came away with 29 points and drew solid support from Beverly Boto, Dahlia Cruz and Sherrilyn Carrillo, who had 12, 11 and 10 points, respectively.

Macatangay, the league's leading scorer with an aggregate of 343 points, failed to lead the Lady Falcons in thwarting the stubborn Lyceum side in the fifth set. The Lady Falcons fell to a 9-5 record.

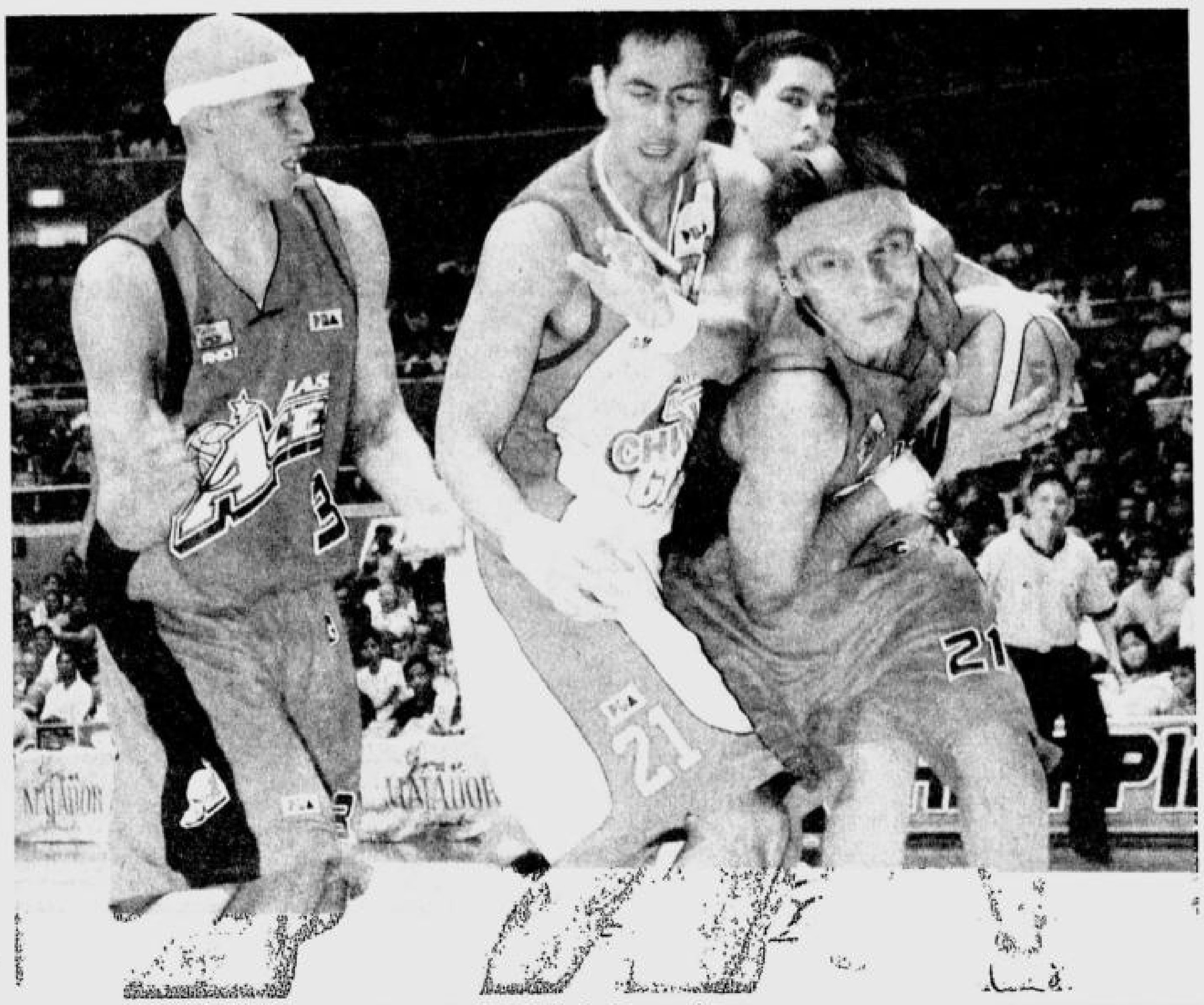
Adamson, which also drew 22 and 10 points from Kristine Ann Dave and Rubie de Leon, respectively, remained in second behind early finalist La Salle.

With the setback, the Lady Falcons might have lost the momentum they need if they get to play San Sebastian in a knockout duel for the remaining Finals slot.

To force a playoff, however, the Lady Stags must prevail over the FEU spikers in the last semifinal playdate tomorrow.

With four wins in the semis, SSC needs to hurdle FEU to avail itself of the league's 5-of-8 incentive for a crack at the second championship berth. A loss, however, will set the stage for the best-of-three title clash between La Salle and Adamson, which are honing up for the UAAP wars.

Meanwhile, La Salle arrested a back-to-back losing skid after sweeping its first 11 games as it trounced FEU, 25-20, 26-24, 25-16, in the second game. *Marc Anthony Reyes*



ALASKA'S Rey Hugnatan (right) barrels into Purefoods' Kerby Raymundo.

PDI PHOTO / AUGUST DELA CRUZ

Red Bull, Purefoods vow to sustain fire

Game 1—Red Bull d. San Miguel, 89-78; Alaska d. Purefoods, 94-92
Game 2—San Miguel d. Red Bull, 114-98; Alaska d. Purefoods, 86-77
Game 3—Red Bull d. San Miguel, 99-95; Purefoods d. Alaska, 82-79

GAMES TODAY *(Araneta Coliseum)*
4:10 p.m.—Red Bull vs San Miguel Beer
6:35 p.m.—Purefoods vs Alaska

RED BULL AND PUREfoods are bent on keeping their momentum in the semifinals of the PBA Philippine Cup semifinals today.

The Bulls and the Giants vowed to put keeping the momentum high on their priority list in Game 4 of the best-of-seven affair at the Araneta Coliseum.

After San Miguel Beer tied the series at 1-1, the Bulls came charging back with a 99-95 win in Game 3 that pushed them a couple of games away from wrapping up the race-to-four affair.

"This is a pivotal game," said Red Bull coach Yeng Guiao. "The momentum should now shift to us and we intend to keep it that way."

The Bulls weathered double-digit deficits in the second half and Danny Seigle's 37-point explosion to move ahead, 2-1, in the series.

"We can't take away all from San Miguel," said Guiao, referring to the Beermen's vicious threat from the low blocks and three-point range. "We got out of trouble because of pure desire and fighting heart."

Scoring 32 of his points after the third, Seigle was saddled with fouls and rode the bench. When coach Jong Uichico redeployed him, Seigle was stone cold and missed three straight point-blank attempts that could have reversed the outcome.

The Bulls will also have to keep watch over Dorian Peña in the paint and Dondon Hontiveros, Olsen Racela, Chris Calaguio and Wesley Gonzales outside the perimeter.

Coming out of a 0-2 pit after winning Game 3 has also shifted the favor on the side of the Giants.

"We like it where we are right now," said Purefoods coach Ryan Gregorio. "The momentum has shifted not only offensively but defensively as well."

The No. 1 defensive team after the classification round spread their offense down to the stringers, unlike in Games 1 and 2 when focus was concentrated on James Yap and Kerby Raymundo.

"We now know the formula and come Sunday (today), Tim Cone will make the adjustment," said Gregorio. "But we don't care anymore about our opponents. We just care about what we will do on the court."

Alcano downs Gallego in US

FORMER AZ BILIARDS ROOKIE OF THE Year Ronato "Ronnie Calamba" Alcano edged compatriot Ramil "Bebeng" Gallego, 10-8, on Friday to remain in the winner's bracket of the 29 man field International Pool Tour (IPT) qualification tournament at the Lou Butera's Pool Sharks in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA.

The 33-year-old Alcano routed Ross Brill, 10-1, in the opening round and is scheduled to meet US-based Filipino cue artist Danny Petraulba, who beat Korean Shin Park, 10-6, and Richard Burns, 10-5, respectively.

"Hindi ko na sasayangin ang oportunidad na nilaan sa akin ni Boss Perry (Mariano)," said Alcano, the 2005 Southeast Asian Games double gold winner in an overseas call yesterday. "Nais ko na ding mag-qualify sa IPT Tour gaya ng stablemate ko na sina Dennis (Orcollo) at Gandy (Valle)."

Another Filipino, Antonio "Nickoy" Lining bowed to Jesse Bowman, 10-8, in the second roudn to join Gallego in the loser's bracket.

Lining,the 2006 Japan Open champion, bested Anthony Piazza ,10-8, in the first round.

Other Filipinos who have secured slots in IPT qualification tournament were 2004 World Pool titlist Alex "The Lion" Pagulayan, Warren "Warrior" Kiamco, Rodolfo "Boy Samson" Luat and Santos Sambajon. They advanced to the grand finals with seeded players led by 1999 World Pool winner Efren "Bata" Reyes and 2002 World pool runner-up Francisco "Django" Bustamante, 2005 World Pool 3rd placer Marlon "Marvelous" Manalo and Filipino pool legend Jose "Amang" Parica. *Marlon Bernandino*

Taekwondo jins join world meet

THE PETRON PHILIPPINE TAEKWONdo Team will be competing in the 8th World Taekwondo Festival and Korea Open Championships in Jeonju, Seoul, Korea on June 26-30.

According to Philippine Taekwondo Association president Robert Aventajado, 50 countries led by Korea, Chinese Taipei, the US and Japan will see action in the event.

The jins will be accompanied by delegation head Ricardo Santiago Jr. and coaches Danilo Guerrero, Rolando Futalan and Rolando Medalla Jr.

The players are: Young junior—John Argee Filipino, Erick Allan Evangelista, Angeli Mark Barro, Devy John Singson, Juntin Emmanuel de Leon and Kirk Barbosa.

Junior—Amiel John Velecina, Bellarmino Ulidan, Clyde Dexter Lozano, Mark Horace Ramos, James Martin Luzuriaga, Ivan Jose dela Rosa, John Christopher Ignatius Choing, Kamil Remigio, Marifi Violeta and karla Jane Alava.

Senior—Ernesto Guzman Jr. and Raul Lozano Jr.

MPL-FA's formula for success

THEY WERE SUPPOSED TO BE JUST fillers.

Pretty teeners deemed to be too demure and fragile to play against the big girls of the traditional football powerhouses.

But looks could be deceiving. The Muntinlupa-Parañaque-Las Piñas Football Association (MPL-FA) players, too, were a hardy bunch. Trained to be tough and rough when needed.

Toppling their opponents with uncanny precision, they eventually landed in the final of the 2006 Philippine Football Federation (PFF) National Women's Under-17 Championship held last May in San Carlos City, Negros Occidental.

Even then, there were skeptics. The MPL-FA, a selection from schools south of Manila, was tagged the underdog against the more experienced Iloilo team.

Again, the MPL-FA girls pulled off a surprise. Charging back to score a 2-1 decision that made them the first associate member of the PFF to clinch a national tournament. A feat that earned admiration and applause from a big crowd at the well-kept San Julio Realty Football Field.

THE VICTORIOUS MPL-FA team

After all, the Metro Manilans toppled not only the Ilonggas, but also the touted Davaoeñas, Cebuanas and Negrenses in the 12-team tournament organized by the San Carlos City Football Club in coordination with the Negros Occidental Football Association and the City of San Carlos.

For MPL-FA coach Ernie Nierras, however, the victory wasn't unexpected. It was a product of meticulous planning, training, even scouting.

Six weeks before the tournament, the girls toiled and sweated daily under a rigid training system designed by Marlon Maro, the head coach of the Philippine Women's team.

Nierras, co-team manager with MPL-FA president Cathy Rivilla of the 2005 SEA Games Philippine Women's team, employed Maro's compact movements on offense and defense, including a swarming rotation used to destabilize opponents. The squad also devoted time on set plays and how to capitalize on opponent's turnovers.

Other members of the MPL-FA coaching staff—Poten Fernandez of Woodrose School, Malou Rubio of Far Eastern University and assistant coaches Gerry Altivo, Lolong Valencia and Jojo Durian—also threw in invaluable pointers that made the girls even sharper. Kiko Bulatao, physiotherapist, on the other hand, made sure that they were in tip-top shape.

In short, MPL-FA developed into potent, cohesive team ready to kick some ass.

Proof: Apart from their collective effort, the MPL-FA girls also took home the individual awards for best goal keeper (Ces Trinidad), best in midfield (Jessica Ryon), best defender (Rebecca Formoso) and most valuable player (team captain Natasha Alquiros).

Truly, they have the stuff of champs.
Roy Luarca

RACING

BY TOP CHOICE

Race 1 — (Penta/Qrt/Tri) — In Excess (6), Maragul (2), Dictionary/ Marigold (3), Spyder Geetee (9), Super Duper (8)
Race 2 — (Qrt/Tri) - Something Silver (6), Sir Ollzon (1), Ikaw Lamang (5), Mandalay Bay (4)
Race 3 — ( ) — Kalmia (4), Puede Ba (2)
Race 4 — (Penta/Qrt/Tri) — Romanticist (8), Pabilic Express (7), Cat's Secret (2), Looney Tuna (5), Hundred Reason (6)
Race 5 — (Qrt/Tri) — Batong Silyar (7), Tigres In Action (2), Sound of Silence (3), Sutter's Quest (6)
Race 6 — (Penta/Qrt/Tri) — Mr. Lucas/Easy Rider (10), D As In Dixie (3), Run Like D'Wind (9), Quant Je Puis (8), Real Tough (1)
Race 7 — (Qrt/Tri) — Real Spicy (2), Dream Cross (1), Speed Advantage (5), La Tienne/Ever Mine NOw (6)
Race 8 — (Penta/Qrt/Tri) — Iron Mic (8), Western Dancer (9), Hezabellagio (5), Money for Sheltex (10), St. Jek Jek (7)
Race 9 — ( ) Tinder (4), Maria Makiling/Tres Jeune (3)
Race 10 — (Super 6/Qrt/Tri) — Juanito's Dream (5), Super Dave (7), Mutiara (10), Erica's Talent (1), Kim Possible (3), Batangas Force (8)
Race 11 — (Tri) Heroica (1), Fujioka (5), Master King (4)
Race 12 — (Penta/Qrt/Tri) — Hidalgo (10), Stradivarius (3), Apex (4), Dixie Dash (9), Without Warning (5)
Race 13 — (Super 6/ Qrt/Tri) — Sugar Ray (1), Latin Music (7), Besame Mucho (9), House of Riches (10), Fernan Ikaw Pa Rin (6), Britnney's Magic (13)

Tan Ho snares 4th title

THIRD SEED JASMINE TAN HO KEPT her poise under pressure to claim her fourth straight girls' 12-under title yesterday in the 7th Copa de Manila Age Group Tennis Championships at the Rizal Memorial Tennis Center.

Playing with a big, fighting heart in the crucial tie-break set, Tan Ho stunned top seed Shannin Mae Olivarez, 6-2, 4-6, (10-6) and improved their head-to-head encounter to 4-2.

"I always expect a tough match against Shannin," said the 11-year-old Tan Ho. "After winning the first set, I relaxed a bit but I tried to get my rhythm back and keep my focus in the tie-break. I'm determined to win and I'm glad I did." Tan Ho, a grade 5 student at the Immaculate Conception Academy in San Juan also won the Toby's, Manila Polo Club-Dunlop and Head Penn Manila leg early this year.

In other girls results, top seed Bien Zoleta outplayed second seed Trudy Gine Amoranto, 6-2, 7-5, to claim the 18-under title while Bien's younger sister Bambi took the 16-under title over sixth seed Martina Rivero, 6-0, 6-0. Second seed Regina Santiago won the 14-under title over Joan Therese Opulencia, 6-1, 6-1.

Unranked Jurence Zosimo Mendoza scored a 6-0, 6-1 upset over fourth seed Joachim Samson to pocket his fourth consecutive unisex 10-under title after Toby's, Head-Penn Manila and Olivarez.

Mendoza, however, lost the boys' 12-under title to Ateneo's Juan Pocholo Macalino, who prevailed, 6-4, 6-2.

Third seed Kim Ivor Saraza rallied past fourth seed Jose Lorenzo Ferrer, 6-0, 2-6, (10-3), to capture the boys' 14-under title in this tournament organized by Manila Vice Mayor and Confederation of Tennis Clubs Philippines, Inc. president Danilo Lacuna.

The boys' 16-under title went to Jose Lorenzo Opulencia, who scored a 6-4, 6-2 victory over Kim Ivor Saraza, while top seed Russell Arcilla Jr. nailed the 18-under crown over unranked Keif Gamana, 6-1, 6-2.

NBC SELECTION: National Basketball Conference (NBC) president Nathaniel "Tac" Padilla (fifth from left, standing) with the Spring Cooking Oil-backed NBC selection that will defend its Crown Prince Cup crown in Thailand June 26 to July 2. The NBC cagers flew to Bangkok yesterday.

Real Spicy adds spice to Gran Copa

By Musong R. Castillo

CARMONA, CAVITE—A STAR-STUDDED CAST LED BY CURRENT super horse Real Spicy sees action today, lending flair and prestige to a Gran Copa de Manila Division I Stakes that has lost a lot of its luster—and prize money—over the years.

The handsome horse by Real Quiet out of Spicy Tale, who has won his last six starts, is picked heavily to win the 1,750-meter race over six other crack track stars that include Speed Advantage at the San Lazaro Leisure Park here.

From what used to be one of the richest races in local soil when the Prieto family ran the Manila Jockey Club, the 26th running of the Gran Copa now stakes only an added P150,000 to the winner to become one of the "poorest" stakes races.

Regular prizes for the day for the highest division of horses is P140,000, making the winner walk away with "only" P290,000, even less than what fund-raising stakes races dangle.

The celebration of the founding of the City of Manila, when the San Lazaro was located in Tayuman, was the highlight of every racing year in the past, with each race in the program carrying added prizes that made longshot winners the fares of the day.

That format also lured the people to the races which made for blockbuster sales, with records established each year, making San Lazaro the dominant racetrack.

New Zealand import Dream Cross, Hellfire, Australian charger Slatkis and coupled entries La Tienne and Ever Mine Now, also imported from Australia, are the others in the Division I field that has a 5:25 p.m. post time.

Triple Crown veterans Tigres in Action and Batong Silyar make up Division II, which will be flagged off at around 4:20 p.m.

"For a very prestigious event, I think it should have a bigger purse," Rep. Benhur Abalos of Mandaluyong, also the Marho president, told the INQUIRER in a phone interview. "Because this is Philippine racing itself.

"(The) Gran Copa is one of the grandest races before and I really think it should be brought back to its old glory."

Abalos, as well as representatives of the biggest horseracing organizations, on Friday were assured by new Philracom chair, retired general Fianza, of a bigger staging of the Gran Copa starting next year.

"He (chair Fianza) assured us that the Philracom will make the Gran Copa the biggest race in history," Abalos added.

Real Spicy's last win came during the rich First Gentleman Silver Cup in May, where he outclassed a talented field that included Speed Advantage.

Jessie B. Guce partners Hermie Esguerra's Real Spicy, a four-year-old chestnut who is treading the path stablemate Wind Blown took in becoming the most dominant horse in the last couple of years.

ABALOS

Tabuena finishes 2nd to American

THE STRONG BUILDUP OF PHILIPPINE JUNgolfers for next month's Callaway Junior World Championships in San Diego, California, continued with Miguel Tabuena and Andie Unson coming through with respectable finishes in the Scott Simpson tournament in Chula Vista City.

Tabuena submitted a three-under card in placing second to American Garret Cypher, who finished at six under.

Tabuena was already five under going to the ninth hole but made bogey that started a struggling stint in the back nine.

Unson came third in 11-12 girls division, with a seven over card.

Only two days ago, Abby Arevalo topped her division in the Pepsi Little People tourney in Illinois.

Tabuena, Unson and Arevalo form part of the 46-player strong RP contingent competing in the Junior World on June 9-15 in six different courses in San Diego.

SPORTSWATCH

Corporate tilt

HOSTILITIES IN THE CORPORATE DIVISION USHers in the 2006 JVC Open Badminton Championships today with 31 teams belonging to the top 1,000 corporations in the country fighting it out for berths in the main draw at PowerSmash in Makati City. Defending champion the Philippine Star heads the Group I field that includes RCBC, Pilipinas Shell and Del Monte, while Meralco, Fortune Tobacco, Allied Bank Corp. and Kawasaki Motors Phils. composed the Group 8 cast in the lower bracket of the event sponsored by JVC (Phils.) Inc. Games start at 9 a.m. with a total of 48 matches among Groups 1 to 4. Another 48-game schedule is on tap in the afternoon for Groups 5 to 8.

Fistorama today

FISTORAMA FEATURES THIS AFTERNOON THE BATtle for the PBF featherweight championship between Jack Asis and Daniel Mansing. The fight was recently held at La Trinidad, Benguet. Fistorama is shown worldwide twice weekly through ABS-CBN Global's The Filipino Channel/Pinoy Central TV. Fistorama, supported by Tanduay, PCSO, Hope and Mapecon, is aired nationwide starting at 3:30 p.m., Sundays on RPN-9. Golf Power Plus airs at 3 p.m. featuring the elimination match between College of Saint Benilde 4 and Far Eastern University 2 in the PCSO Women's Inter-Collegiate Beach Volleyball Challenge.

Hatawan up July 1

IT'S ONE MORE WEEK TO GO BEFORE THE MUCH-awaited Hatawan Sa Tag-Ulan 6-cock derby blasts off at the 15,000-seat and newly renovated Roligon Mega Cockpit. Slated on July 1, 4, 6, 8 and 11, the cockfest offering P3.5 million in guaranteed prize is expected to attract no less than 300 entries, according to host Rolly Ligon. Entry fee is P8,800. Meanwhile, the Matchmaker 4-cock derby unfolds at Roligon on June 27 and will be hosted by Tiling Capitan, Fred Canumay and Willie Villaluz. For an entry fee of P6,600, the cash prize at stake is P300,000. For details, call 851-2275, 833-1638 and 852-9812 (look for Shirley or Jonna).

AMAYA PAZ celebrates after winning the gold in the last Southeast Asian Games. ROMY HOMILLADA

Paz right on target

By Jasmine W. Payo

EVERYTHING HAS BEEN ON TARGET FOR Amaya Paz lately.

Yet the country's top archer still felt awed by the fact that she ranked 20th in the world early this year.

"It was a big thing," said Paz. "The World Championships was a big eye opener. During the qualifying round, I ranked eighth. And I really thought that we can do it, that we can excel in this sport."

Paz had a good run in 2005, capping the year by winning two gold medals in the women's individual and team compound events in the archery competition of the 23rd Southeast Asian Games last December.

But the new toast of local archery admits it all started out of curiosity.

"I was watching the Olympics with my dad when we saw the archery competition," said Paz. "So I just tried it one summer in 2000. I'm really an athlete, I like to try different sports. I was a swimmer, I was also into football."

The shift from action-packed activities to a more pensive sport didn't turn out difficult for the 20-year-old.

"It seemed natural for me to do it every day after school, even on Sundays," said Paz. "I just loved it. It was like my own time for myself."

Although it seems like anyone can easily pick up the sport, Paz said it takes a lot of time and focus to excel in archery.

"It's either you love it or you don't even bother to try again," she noted. "It's repetitive. Every shot, you have to think about your form. The wind is also a big, big factor. Once it hits, you'll never really know who will win. It's a mix of luck and skills. So we're often anxious."

But Paz, a junior psychology student from the University of the Philippines, has already learned how to handle unpredictable situations.

"It's all mental," she said. "You can have a perfect score in your training and practice, but when it comes down to the competition and you don't have the nerves and the focus, everything goes down."

And while most athletes need to keep their adrenaline in high gear, Paz shared that archers need to have a collected disposition.

"Before, I try to psyche myself up, that I should be excited before a competition," she said. "But it didn't turn out to be a good thing. Your heartbeat affects your shooting. So I had to calm down and just enjoy what I'm doing. You learn that through experience."

And Paz plans to gain more exposure as she continues to do the rounds in local and international tournaments.

"There's so much to learn in competing that you won't learn during training," she said. "But I will just have fun. Once I take it seriously and think that I always have to win, it will feel like a burden."

Javier rules national target championship

OLONGAPO CITY—SOUTHEAST ASIAN Games medalist Mark Javier of Silliman University-Dumaguete Archery Club (Sudac) nipped Paul Marton de la Cruz, 108-104, in the men's Olympic Round finals Friday to emerge as national target champion in the Philippine Olympic Festival's archery competition at the Subic Bay Freeport Football field here.

Javier, a member of the 23rd SEAG champion Philippine squad, also dominated the elimination round of the recurve division in clinching the title won last year by Marvin Cordero.

Veteran Cristian Cubilla settled for the bronze medal.

Newcomer Enrique Cojuangco Jr. of IPK2 pulled a big surprise by copping the men's bow compound division gold medal. He edged Fermin Barrenechea, 108-107, in the finals.

Gil Gabriel was third.

Carlos Carag ruled the compound event last year, but he did not compete this time.

After his victory, Javier thanked the sponsors, his coach Rowell Merto and archery president Dr. Leonora Fe S. Brawner "for the support and valuable suggestions."

Dela Cruz and Barrenechea emerged Masters recurve and compound champions, respectively. Dela Cruz tallied 101 points to beat Cubilla (93) and Gerard Laguardia, while Barrenechea carded 105 to topple Cojuangco (101) and Earl Benjamin Yap.

The other winners were Jose Mari Vargas in Masters recurve division, Vicente Luis Sandoval (Masters compound), Ariel Cuevas (Standard), Markjo Vincent Velora (Junior), Marco Limcauco (Cadet-compound), Elijah Bismark (Cadet-recurve) and Jhoon Rhee Hongitan (Novice).

SBMA chair Feliciano G. Salonga, who gave an inspirational talk after the men's competition, presented medals to all the winners. He was assisted by Dr. Brawner.

The team event yesterday wrapped up the tourney sponsored by SBMA, Coca-cola, AMA Computer University (Olongapo City campus) and Globe.

ORCOLLO: Productive US campaign.

Orcollo goes big time

FOR DENNIS ORCOLLO, THE small cue artist from Bislig, Surigao del Sur, money is no longer the primary motivation.

After arriving from a brief but productive campaign in the United States, the 27-year-old son of a fisherman is bent on going big time.

"*Iba 'yung* confidence *na naibigay ng pagsali ko sa mga* tournaments *sa* US," said Orcollo. "*Pakiramdam ko ngayon kahit saan ako lumaban kaya kong manalo.*"

The unassuming top player of billiards patron Perry Mariano has all the reasons to feel that way.

After all, he came home with two major titles, a runner-up trophy and invitations to several lucrative and prestigious tournaments..

In his three-week stay in the West Coast, Orcollo beat some of the world's best like 1990 Billiards Player of the Year Kim Davenport and 2001 US Open winner Corey Deuel.

Orcollo won the prestigious Reno Open at Sands Regency Hotel in Reno, Nevada, and the 9-ball event of the Hard Times Summer Jamboree at Hard Times Billiards Hall in Sacramento, California.

Those tournaments attracted a total of 223 participants, including fellow Filipinos Jose "Amang" Parica, Warren Kiamco, Gandy Valle and Santos Sambajon.

GAY Corral, Aimee Gana and Iryne Garcia are headed to the Asian Games.

RP lady shooters clinch Doha Asian Games slots

EXPERT LADY SHOOTERS GAY CORRAL, Aimee Gana and Iryne Garcia were assured of slots in the Philippine national team set to compete in the 2006 Asian Games slated this December in Doha, Qatar, after a record-breaking feat last week.

Corral, Gana and Garcia shot an aggregate score of 181/225 in last week's trap shooting eliminations (one of the series scheduled this year) at the PSC—PNSA Trap/Skeet Shooting range in Muntinlupa City.

The qualifying mark set by the Philippine Sports Commission for this event is 180/225.

The trio's score was also better than the 180/225 set by the Japan ladies trap team, who won the bronze medal, in the 2002 Asian Games.

Corral, Gana and Garcia, who also bagged the gold medal in the 2005 Southeast Asia Shooting Association (SEASA) team competition, tallied 61, 61 and 59 points, respectively.

Consequently, SEASA champion and 2005 SEA Games double gold medalist Paul Bryan Rosario was also assured of a slot in the 2006 Asian Games after posting a record-breaking score of 118/125 in the skeet eliminations.

Meanwhile, shooting superstar and Olympian Jethro Dionisio had an impressive finish of 116/125 plus 22/25 in the single barrel finals to clinch first place in the men's trap eliminations, a point shy of his 117/125 bronze medal winning score in the last Asian Games in Busan, Korea.

CONGRATULATION TO ALL THE WINNERS
BUMILI NG BARON
MAAARING MANOOD NG BOXING IN ACTION
ABS-CBN
BARON by [illegible] ROTEL
in cooperation with ABS CBN
FIRST PRIZE - Ringside Seat
Address Paltoza Ampd South Drive St. Fiesta Homo San Pedro East, Laguna
SECOND PRIZE - Lowerbox Seat
Address # 31 Bayanihan St. Tolanny Ava Batasan Hills Quezon City
THIRD PRIZE - Upperbox Seat
Address Brgy. Alusis San Narciso, Zambales
Dealer DIY Shop
CONSOLATION PRIZE - Gen. Admission
Winner Baby Soriano (975 Rizal Ave. W T Olongapo City)
Dealer : Vision Electronics
Winner Wilfredo Payde (Tartaria Silang Cavite)

LGBA starts stagfighting season Aug. 29

THE LUZON GAMECOCK BREEders Association (LGBA), recognized as the biggest group of breeders in Luzon, will start the 2006 stagfighting season by staging the LGBA 5-stag derby on Aug. 29 and 31 at the Araneta Coliseum.

According to LGBA president Rene "Boy" Diaz, a participant is required to field five straight stags either on Aug. 29 or 31. Because of this new format, breeders can save considerable time and resources, Diaz said.

LGBA derbies (5-stag) are also scheduled at Malvar Sports Center (Sept. 5) and Bacolor Cockpit Arena (Sept. 8).

Other schedules at the Araneta Coliseum will be on Sept. 18, 20, 22, 25 and 27 (second leg); Oct. 17, 19 and 23 (third leg) and Nov. 4 (fourth leg).

The LGBA, in cooperation with Rooster Media Productions, have lined up other important projects like the Tukaan/LGBA Caravan Gamecock forum/seminars in seven major cities in Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao.

For details, call the LGBA office: 926-7808; 924-5072 and 924-5051 (loc. 128).

Heat celebrate a fulfilled promise

MIAMI—MIAMI'S NEWLY crowned NBA champions hoisted the trophy in South Florida on Friday in front of an estimated 250,000 fans, fulfilling an 11-year quest by coach Pat Riley and a promise by Shaquille O'Neal.

O'Neal vowed to bring a championship to Miami when he was contracted two years ago, and that championship was there after the Heat beat the Dallas Mavericks in six games for the title.

"That's something you can't experience until you win it all," finals MVP Dwyane Wade said after the parade. "Our fans have been great. That experience right there was, just like Zo (Alonzo Mourning) said, overwhelming. I wanted to go again."

Maybe he will—soon.

While Friday was about celebrating 2006, questions are already being asked about 2007.

Specifically, can the Heat repeat?

"Yes, because Dwyane Wade keeps getting better," said Laurenn Webster, 19, a student from Coral Gables.

"And he's already the best," chimed in twin sister Lindsay. Barring unforeseen shake-ups, most of this team is coming back, so repeat talk is inevitable.

EVEN coach Pat Riley can't resist doing a little celebratory jig. AFP

Wade and O'Neal are likely to be under contract in Miami for four more seasons; that's how long O'Neal has left on his deal, and Wade becomes eligible on July 1 for a long-term extension which will pay him at least $75 million.

The other starters—Udonis Haslem, Antoine Walker and Jason Williams—all have multiyear deals still in place; Williams, however, will decide next week when to schedule surgery to relieve tendinitis in his knee.

Riley and Mourning aren't so certain.

Riley, 61, acknowledges the season drained him; when a rumor he was stepping aside popped up in April, he issued a terse statement vowing to return, but was largely noncommittal when the subject came up on Friday.

"Don't ask me that," said Riley, now a seven-time NBA champion. "I love you—but I can't answer that right now."

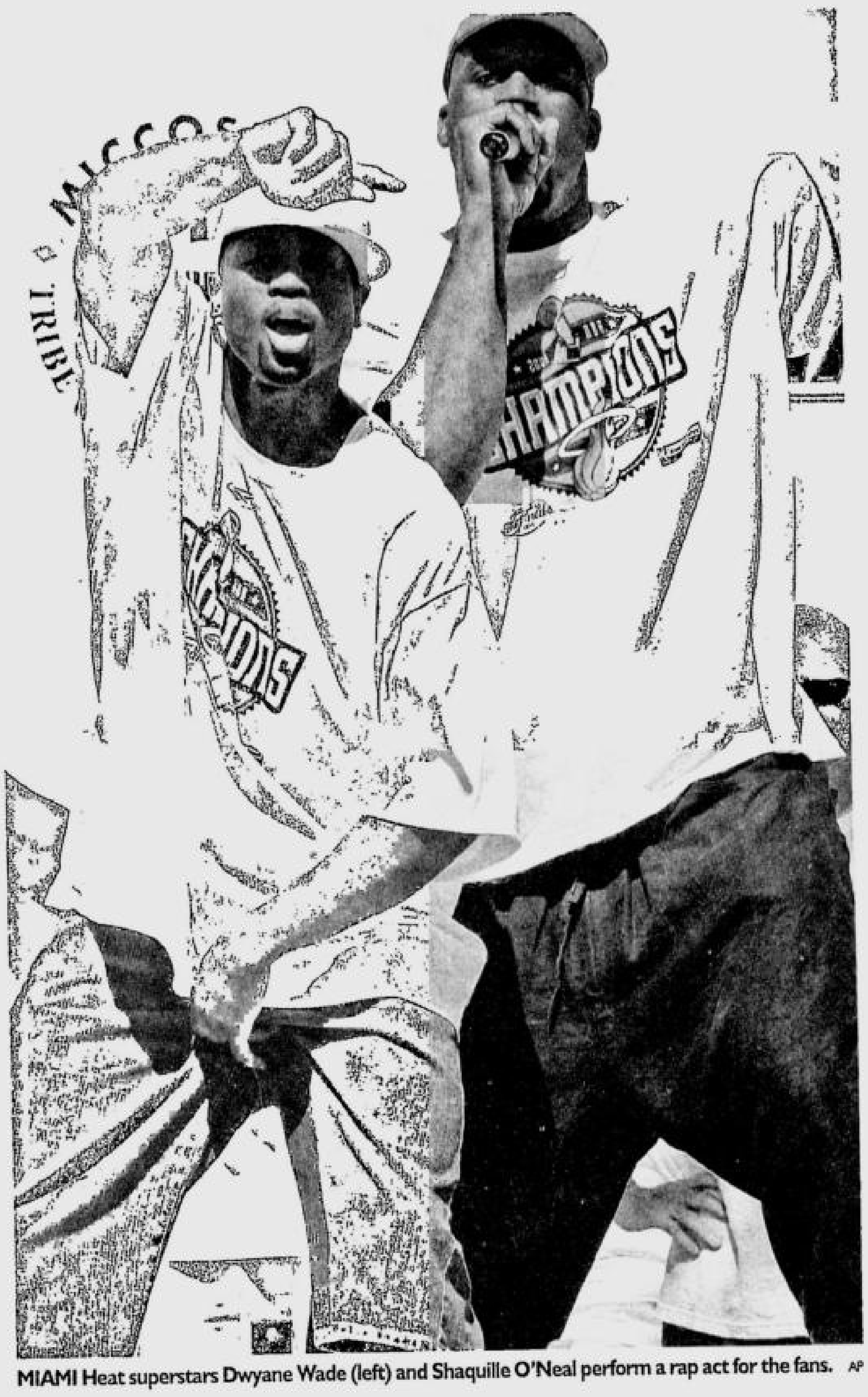
And Mourning clearly can still play, given his eight-point, six-rebound, five-block, all-dramatic effort in the Game 6 clincher over the Mavericks. He hasn't made any plan official.

"Obviously, this would be the best way to go out—on top," Mourning said. "It truly would. At the same time, everybody is talking about we've got to defend our title."

When O'Neal had the microphone, he rapped, led cheers, and chanted "One more year" to Mourning. And he wasn't done, either.

"Whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa," O'Neal said when someone tried to interrupt him as the rally started. "We all know Coach Riley's a great motivator. Who wants to see Coach Riley dance? Who wants to see Coach Riley dance? Give me some, Riley!"

With that, Riley danced. *AP*



MIAMI Heat superstars Dwyane Wade (left) and Shaquille O'Neal perform a rap act for the fans. AP

O'Neal makes another vow

MIAMI—SHAQUILLE O'NEAL, WHO made good on a vow to deliver a National Basketball Association title to Miami, Friday promised another one.

O'Neal and the Heat celebrated the first championship in the 18-year history of the Miami franchise at a downtown parade on Friday.

"We will do it again next year," O'Neal promised. Such victory parades are nothing new to O'Neal, who enjoyed three with the Los Angeles Lakers from 2000-02.

The loudest ovations went to superstar guard Dwyane Wade and coach and president Pat Riley.

Wade averaged 34.7 points in the NBA finals as the Heat won four straight games over the Dallas Mavericks after losing the first two games.

He scored 36 points and grabbed 10 rebounds in the Heat's series-clinching 95-92 win at Dallas on Tuesday night.

"Repeat after me, MVP, MVP," O'Neal bellowed to the crowd before introducing Wade.

Wearing white sunglasses, Wade took a more humble approach in his address to the fans.

"You did it for us with your tremendous support," Wade said.

Riley, who coached the Lakers to four titles in the 1980s, danced on the stage to the delight of the fans while O'Neal rapped to the crowd. Riley replaced Stan Van Gundy as coach in December.

The future Hall of Famer is tied with John Kundla of the Minneapolis Lakers with five titles. Only Red Auerbach and Phil Jackson have won more titles, with nine each. *AFP*

US Open winner hits technology, course changes

OGILVY: Speaking his mind out. AP

MELBOURNE—NEWLY CROWNED US Open champion Geoff Ogilvy will not let his status as a major winner stop him speaking his mind about advances in technology and course changes which he believes are harming the game.

Ogilvy became the first Australian to win a major in 11 years and the first since 1981 to win the US Open with his victory at Winged Foot Golf Club last week, but insists he will continue to oppose changes which he claims hurts the game as a spectacle.

"I think golf is a better game when the ball goes shorter for us professionals," the 29-year-old from Melbourne told reporters.

"I don't understand why we have to get to the point where we change the Augusta National. We had it for 70 years so why change it?"

Since 2002 when Tiger Woods won his third green jacket, the host course for the Masters has been extended by 460 yards, making it the second-longest course in major championship history at 7,445 yards.

Ogilvy, regarded as having one of the best swings in the game but ranks a mere 59th on the Tour driving statistics, said improvements in club and ball technology had helped the players that least needed assistance.

"We (professionals) are the top one percent of golf and, at the most it's one percent of that one percent who really benefit. It helps the guys who didn't need the help.

"Guys who used to be able to drive 300 yards can now hit it 340. Long term it's not good for the game." *Reuters*

Streetballers gear up for 3-on-3 tilt

THE 2006 ADIDAS STREETBALL CHALLENGE blasts off July 1 with the Mindanao regional qualifying tournament at the Gaisano Mall in Davao City.

The two-day invitational tournament features 36 boys' teams and 12 girls' teams composed of players 18 years old and below.

After the Davao tournament, qualifying tournaments will also be held in Metro Manila on July 8-9, Baguio City for Luzon, July 22-23, and the Visayas edition in Cebu on July 29-30.

The national finals is set August 12-13, with the boys' teams playing for a slot in the Asian Streetball Championship in Guangzhou, China set on Aug. 25-27, according to Goody Custodio, Adidas Sports marketing manager.

Adidas Streetball Challenge started here in 1996 and quickly gained nationwide popularity. It is the longest-running basketball tournament of its kind in the Philippines, featuring a 12-minute running time game with just three cagers playing without substitution while a fourth player acts as coach.

The Philippines has done well at the Asian level winning three championships already. The University of Santo Tomas women's team was the first to accomplish the feat in China in 2000.

Two years later, the University of the Viasays Green Lancers, led by current PBL standout JR Quiñahan became the first boys team to win the crown, also in China, and were rewarded with a trip to Orlando, Florida, where they met NBA superstar Tracy McGrady, an Adidas endorser.

Last year, San Beda College won the Asian boys' title and flew to Portland to watch a game between the Portland Trailblazers and the Houston Rockets, and also toured the Adidas Global Basketball headquarters in the same city. The Red Lions will try to defend their title this year.

STILL THE BEST

World record holder Michael Phelps of the US swims to win the men's 400M Individual Medley Finals in a new meet record during the Santa Clara XXXIX International Swim Meet, part of the 2006 USA Swimming Grand Prix Series. AFP

'46 champs get together

THE 1946 VARSITY TEAM OF THE UNIVERsity of Santo Tomas is celebrating its championship's diamond anniversary on Sunday, July 2 at the Kamayan Restaurant on Edsa at noontime.

Among the members were Dr. Jose X. Genato Jr., SPO1 Ricardo Pineda, QC Mobile Unit, Judge Felipe Tongco, Valentin M. Eduque, Olympian coach and manager of Kamayan Restaurant, Edward Dee, Demosthenes Nagtalon, Ramoncito Campos, 1948 London Olympian, Lt. Col. Julian Malonso, P.A. (ret.), longest living former PAAF and NOC president; congressman and governor of Pampanga and mayor of Angeles City Francisco G. Nepomuceno and lawyer Antonio Castillejo of Cacho Hermanos.

Coach was the Dean of Coaches Herminio Silva and moderator was Very Rev. Fr. Excelso Garcia, O.P. Vice-Rector of UST.

BEST OF THE BEST: The 35th Boysen-PBC International Tenpin Open Championships 2006 Open Masters winners are feted during the awarding ceremonies. On hand were (from left): PBC and FIQ president Steve Hontiveros, Women's Open Masters champion Kang Hyun Jin (Korea), Men's Open Masters Champion Biboy Rivera (Philippines) and Asian Bowling Federation chief Sheikh Talal Mohd Al Sabah

Renault's Alonso worried about Ferrari

MONTREAL—THERE'S A NOTION THAT FERnando Alonso can lock up his second consecutive world championship during Formula One's two-race swing through North America.

Alonso, who has a 23-point lead over Michael Schumacher heading into the Canadian Grand Prix on Sunday, isn't buying it.

"I think it will be difficult to increase (the lead) coming to two races where probably Ferrari are the favorites," Alonso said. "I think we have to defend here a little bit, and hopefully finish in front of them, but it will be extremely difficult."

Both drivers had a fairly light day in Friday's two practice sessions. Both made just brief appearances in the morning.

Alonso then ran 15 laps in the afternoon, posting the second-fastest time of the session behind BMW-Sauber test driver Robert Kubica. Schumacher was 15th on the chart after running 17 laps. Qualifying is on Saturday.

It's clear after the first eight rounds this season that the championship will be a battle between Alonso and Schumacher, the seven-time world champion who was knocked off the throne last year by the 24-year-old Spaniard.

Alonso has five victories this season, including three straight, compared to Schumacher's two wins. He was runner-up to Alonso in the past three races.

But things might change after this two-week stretch through Canada and the United States Grand Prix in Indianapolis. Schumacher has a combined 11 victories at the two tracks, while Alonso has none.

In fact, Alonso has failed to finish three of his four races at the Circuit Gilles Villeneuve, including last year when he made a rare error and hit the wall while leading. The next week, he was one of 14 drivers to boycott the United States GP over tire safety issues at Indianapolis Motor Speedway.

Alonso would very much like to rectify those two forgetful weeks by finally breaking through in North America.

"It was a fantastic season, 2005, apart from these two races," he said. "In Canada a mistake, and I didn't finish the race, and at Indianapolis we didn't even start the race.

"It was not a good moment in the championship, but I think this year is completely different. We arrive with high motivation, winning the last three races, and I'll try to finish in the podium in the next two races."

Schumacher will certainly do his best to stand in Alonso's way. A win in Canada would make him the first driver to win the same GP eight times.

Regardless of the outcome, though, Schumacher doesn't believe the next two weeks will make or break his championship hunt.

"If I would be leading with the points that Fernado is leading, I would say until it's mathematically finished that the championship is not finished," Schumacher said.

In fact, Schumacher isn't even convinced that a victory on Sunday would be enough to close significant ground on Alonso. *AP*

FIFA WORLD CUP GERMANY 2006

First Round

Team®	MP	W	D	L	GF	GA	Pts
GROUP A							
Germany	3	3	0	0	8	2	9
Ecuador	3	2	0	1	5	3	6
Poland	3	1	0	2	2	4	3
Costa Rica	3	0	0	3	3	9	0
GROUP B							
England	3	2	1	0	5	2	7
Sweden	3	1	2	0	3	2	5
Paraguay	3	1	0	2	2	2	3
Trinidad & Tobago	3	0	1	2	0	4	1
GROUP C							
Argentina	3	2	1	0	8	1	7
Netherlands	3	2	1	0	3	1	7
Ivory Coast	3	1	0	2	5	6	3
Serbia and Mont	3	0	0	3	2	10	0
GROUP D							
Portugal	3	3	0	0	5	1	9
Mexico	3	1	1	1	4	3	4
Angola	3	0	2	1	1	2	2
Iran	3	0	1	2	2	6	1
GROUP E							
Italy	3	2	1	0	5	1	7
Ghana	3	2	0	1	4	3	6
Czech Republic	3	1	0	2	3	4	3
USA	3	0	1	2	2	6	1
GROUP F							
Brazil	3	3	0	0	7	1	9
Australia	3	1	1	1	5	5	4
Croatia	3	0	2	1	2	3	2
Japan	3	0	1	2	2	7	1
GROUP G							
Switzerland	3	2	1	0	4	0	7
France	3	1	2	0	3	1	5
Korea Republic	3	1	1	1	3	4	4
Togo	3	0	0	3	1	6	0
GROUP H							
Spain	3	3	0	0	8	1	9
Ukraine	3	2	0	1	5	4	6
Tunisia	3	0	1	2	3	6	1
Saudi Arabia	3	0	1	2	2	7	1

INQGRAPHICS

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Ukraine 1, Tunisia 0
Spain 1, Saudi Arabia 0
Switzerland 2, South Korea 0
France 2, Togo 0

TODAY'S MATCHES

Germany vs. Sweden
Argentina vs. Mexico

TEAM®
MP - Matches Played
W - Wins
D - Draws
L - Losses
GF - Goals For
GA - Goals Against
Pts - Points

- **FIFA WORLD CUP ON SPORTPLUS**

4 a.m.—Switzerland vs Korea Republic
1 p.m.—Ukraine vs Tunisia
4 p.m.—Togo vs France (replay tomorrow @ 12 a.m.)

France flexes its muscles

Henry, Vieira shine as French fry ousted Togo, 2-0

COLOGNE, GERMANY—France finally won its game of brinkmanship and a World Cup game for the first time since capturing the title eight years ago.

Teetering on the edge of another embarrassing first-round elimination from the World Cup, the 1998 champion beat Togo, 2-0, on Friday to advance to the final 16 for a game against Spain.

Patrick Vieira, leading the team in place of suspended captain Zinedine Zidane, scored the first goal on his 30th birthday and set up the second for Thierry Henry in a six-minute span in the second half to help France advance as the second-place team in Group G with five points. Switzerland finished first after beating South Korea 2-0.

"Of course it's stressful when you don't score, and especially when we couldn't afford to concede a goal," France coach Raymond Domenech said. "But once we found out the Swiss had scored a second goal, we were much more calm."

Vieira lifted his game after two of his worst performances ever in a French shirt against Switzerland and the Koreans.

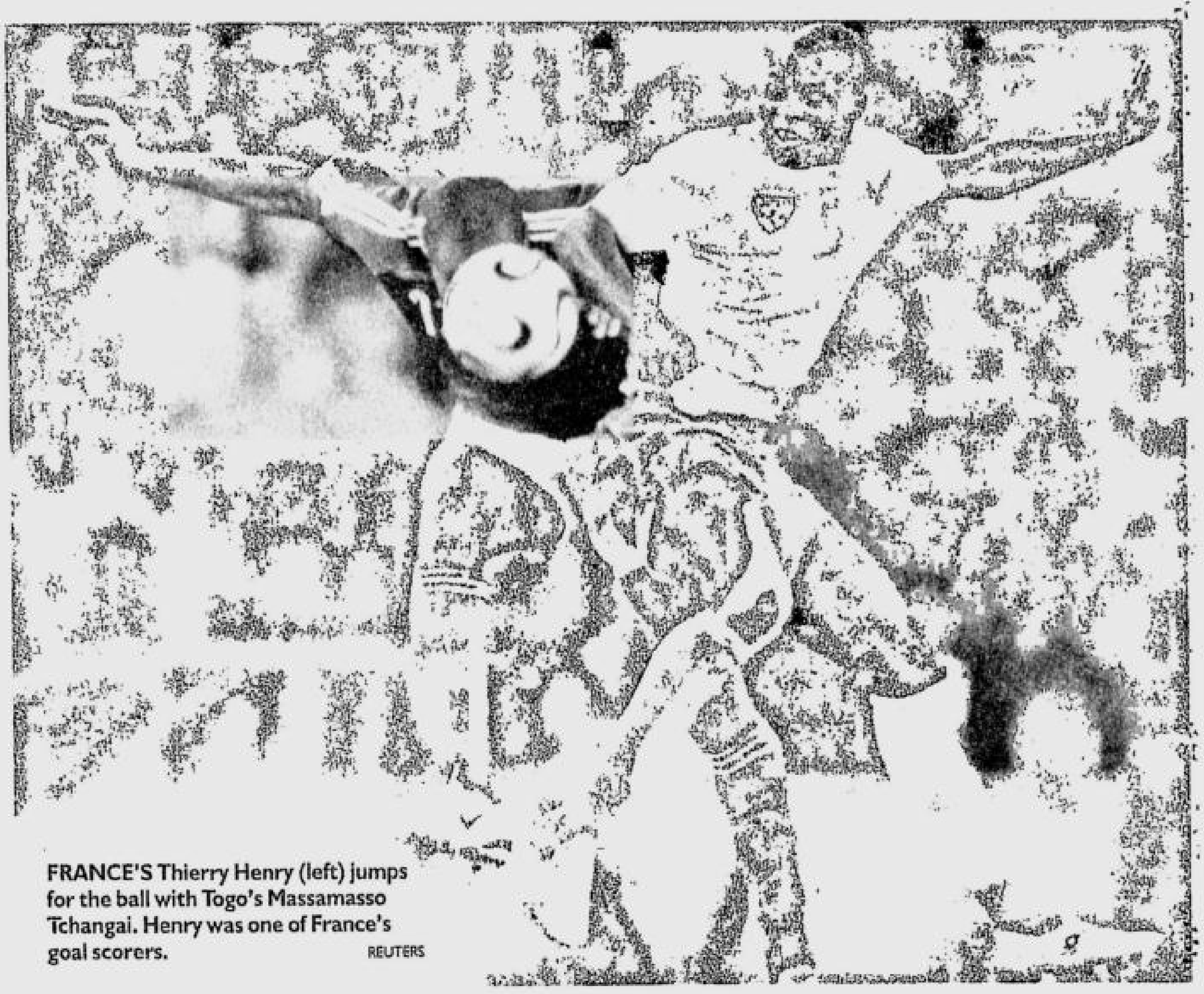
"I was really motivated as we think we have a really good team and we don't deserve not to go to the next round," he said. "You have to work hard and I am quite happy for my performance tonight."

Henry said he was thankful to score his second goal in two games.

"When we got into the dressing room at halftime it was a bit worrying, because you think their goalkeeper is going to have one of those games," the Arsenal striker said. "He was saving everything and you think he can only get more and more confident. But we managed to stay calm."

Four years ago, France went out tamely in the first round without scoring a goal, losing to Senegal and Denmark and tying 0-0 with Uruguay.

It was the same pattern at this World Cup as Domenech's team wasted chances in a 0-0 draw with Switzerland and then surrendered the lead in a 1-1 tie with South Korea. *AP*



FRANCE'S Thierry Henry (left) jumps for the ball with Togo's Massamasso Tchangai. Henry was one of France's goal scorers. REUTERS

Switzerland seals breakthrough advance

HANOVER, GERMANY—SWITZERLAND reached the second round in its first World Cup for 12 years Friday after a 2-0 victory over South Korea.

Philippe Senderos headed in Hakan Yakin's free kick in the 23rd minute and Alexander Frei added a disputed goal in the 77th to clinch the win and eliminate the 2002 semifinalist.

Switzerland won Group G and will play in the second round against Ukraine on Monday in Cologne.

Switzerland finished with seven points, two more than 1998 champion France, and three more than South Korea. Togo finished last without a point.

"We deservedly won and now we're proud to be in the top 16 in the world," Frei said. "The team's goal was achieved. Everything else from here is extra."

Switzerland advanced to the second round without conceding a goal—the only team to do so.

"We're proud we didn't give up a goal. It's fun playing with this team," Switzerland goalkeeper Pascal Zuberbuehler said. "We fought defensively all together."

Lee Chun-soo set up a third-minute opportunity for South Korea but his cross back across goal eluded Park Ji-sung.

The two sides exchanged chances for the 10 minutes before Switzerland began to gain control. As South Korea's defense became more desperate, Park Chu-young pulled down Tranquillo Barnetta, drawing a yellow card and giving the Swiss a 23rd-minute free kick.

Yakin curled a left-footed drive from 35 meters (yards) and Senderos ran on to it and headed past goalkeeper Lee Woon-jae.

Both Senderos and defender Choi Jin-cheul were left bloody from a clash of heads. Senderos came to the touchline to celebrate his goal with blood streaming down his nose from a cut between his eyes while Choi was left with a cut above his right eye.

Both needed attention to close the wounds and returned five minutes later. Senderos later was forced out of the game in the 51st after falling on his right elbow in a clash with Cho Jae-jin.

In the 77th, Frei rounded the goalkeeper to score. The lineman flagged for offside, but the referee ruled that a Korean defender had played the ball to Frei.

Spurred on by thousands of red-clad supporters, filling the southwest corner of the stadium who sang and chanted throughout, South Korea controlled most of the possession in the second half.

South Korea created several chances, one of which was a header from a 66th-minute corner by Cho that Zuberbuehler had to push over the bar. *AP*

SWISS defender Philippe Senderos (left) heads the ball to score a goal despite banging his head into South Korean defender Choi Jin-Cheul's face. Senderos and Choi were bloodied after the collision. AFP

Fan threatens to bomb Swiss embassy after Korea loss

SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA—A 44-YEAR-OLD South Korean football fan was booked here Saturday after inquiring about the phone number of the Swiss embassy, saying he would blow it up, police said.

The man, identified only by his family name Kim, called the emergency hotline used to report crimes and asked for the number after Switzerland beat South Korea, 2-0, and knocked it out of the World Cup.

"What's the number of the Swiss embassy? I will blow it up," he was quoted as saying when he called the hotline.

Police booked Kim without physical detention after tracing him with the help of the telephone directory service.

A South Korean soccer fan died of a suspected heart attack Saturday while watching the country play a crucial World Cup match against Switzerland at a massive, pre-dawn street rally in Seoul, police said.

The 25-year-old college student, identified only by his surname, Kim, collapsed while watching the country's last game on large outdoor screens in downtown Seoul. Kim was taken immediately to hospital, but died. *AFP, AP*

Ukraine, Spain end qualifiers with wins

BERLIN—SPAIN AND UKRAINE DID EXACTLY as expected Friday, each winning their matches to eliminate Saudi Arabia and Tunisia from the World Cup.

Spain won its third straight game at this year's tournament, with a team of reserves beating Saudi Arabia, 1-0, in Kaiserslautern to confirm the feeling that it may be about to lose its underachiever tag.

Ukraine, which became the first former Soviet republic to advance to the second round at a World Cup, beat Tunisia, 1-0, in Berlin. Andriy Shevchenko scored from the penalty spot in the 70th minute.

Spain will play France on Tuesday in Hanover, while Ukraine plays Switzerland in Cologne.

Shevchenko scored his second goal of the tournament after he was knocked down while running between Tunisia goalkeeper Ali Boumnijel and defender Karim Hagui.

Tunisia finished the match with 10 men after striker Ziad Jaziri was sent off in the last minute of the first half. Jaziri received his second yellow of the match for a sliding tackle on Anatoly Tymoschuk.

"It was a good thing we scored when we did," Tymoschuk said. "We didn't concentrate properly and should have scored more."

Ukraine coach Oleh Blokhin and several of his players clapped when referee Carlos Amarilla pulled out the yellow card. *AP*

Having won over countrymen, Germans eye victory vs Swedes

BERLIN—GERMANY COULD GO from one of its best World Cup starts to one of its worst finishes in one game.

Germany opened with three straight wins for its best start in 36 years. A defeat Saturday against Sweden would equal its previous earliest exit, in 1938. It also failed to advance from the second-round group stage in 1978, when the tournament had a different format.

"We have a big hurdle ahead of us, but we have a great goal," coach Juergen Klinsmann said Friday before the team's departure for Munich, where Germany also played the opening match of the tournament and beat Costa Rica, 4-2.

"We are absolutely certain that we'll accomplish this very difficult task. We believe in our strengths and we believe we can beat Sweden," Klinsmann said. "Our expectations as a soccer nation and the World Cup host don't end with the second round or the quarterfinals. We are looking forward to this game and we want to play three more."

When he became Germany coach two years ago, Klinsmann promised to lead the host nation to its fourth World Cup title.

The Germans admired his upbeat approach and credited it to the can-do attitude he must have picked up in his adopted homeland of the United States, but were skeptical of how realistic the promise was.

While the media doubted and often damned him, the fans enjoyed it: they started a love affair with Klinsmann's young, daring, attacking team that had cast away the dour efficiency of the previous generations and was fun to watch.

Klinsmann's team paid them back by giving Germany its best World Cup start in 36 years and now it may have a problem—even the doubters have become believers.

Sweden spent most of Thursday resting and practicing penalties.

Germany has no injury worries and Sweden striker Zlatan Ibrahimovic is fit and ready to play after recovering from a left groin injury eight days ago.

But the big question is if Ibrahimovic will start or come on as a substitute. *AP*

OTHER South Korean fans react to the loss a little less violently to their team's defeat, choosing to shed tears instead of issuing threats.

Sunday SPORTS

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Text us yo dback: in sprt name/age/city/message to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

NAT'L BOXING

Tipon whips rival, paces youth meet semifinalists

By Dennis U. Eroa
Libre sports editor

TUBOD. LANAO DEL NORTE—BANTAMweight Joan Tipon, flashing the form that made him the reigning Southeast Asian Games champion, whipped Jonathan Alde of Zamboanga City Thursday night to lead the semifinals cast in the National Youth and Women Amateur Boxing Olympic Festival at the Mindanao Civic Center here.

Tipon, carrying the colors of the Elorde-Parañaque boxing team, scored an RSC (Referee Stopped Contest, 2nd round, 34 seconds) against the hapless Alde in this week-long slugfest supported by the Lanao del Norte provincial government headed by Gov. Imelda Quibranza Dimaporo and Rep. Bobby Dimaporo.

Other bantamweight (54 kg) semifinalists were Rolly Boholts of Camiguin province, Godfrey Castro of the Philippine Army and Rey Rebukas of Maramag, Bukidnon.

In the light-flyweight class (48 kg), veteran internationalist Harry Tañamor of the Philippine Army, Albert Pabila of Elorde-Parañaque, William Belandres of North Cotabato and Ronel Pereras of Caba, Sorsogon, made it to the semifinals of the event serving as qualifier for future members of the Amateur Boxing Association of the Philippines training pool.

In the junior division, bantamweight (54 kg), Larry Abarra became the second bet from the Olongapo City boxing team to enter the semifinals. He scored a RSC in the 2nd round against Allan Idusura of Puerto Princesa City.

Other semifinalists are Roberto Udtuhan, Larry Villanueva and Ronald Virtudazo. Semifinalists in the junior division of the pinweight (45 kg), are Jeff Macaranas, John Casimero, Noriel Nacionales and Jose Rumasasa.

THE LETRAN Knights cheer dancers perform their routine to spice up the opening of this year's NCAA basketball season. *(Story on A25)* AUGUST DELA CRUZ

B. Pacquiao seeks Soto's WBC crown Aug. 12 in Nevada

By Salven L. Lagumbay
Contributor

WHILE HIS MORE FAMOUS brother is gearing for a big fight next month, Bobby Pacquiao will also plunge into deep training as he challenges World Boxing Council featherweight interim king Humberto "Zorrita" Soto on Aug. 12 at the Montbleu Resort Casino & Spa in Lake Tahoe, Nevada, in the United States.

Pacquiao, who holds the WBC Continental Americas super-featherweight title, will be moving down one weight division to challenge Soto.

The vastly-talented Soto (39-5-2, 23 KOs) had previously beaten Rocky Juarez for the WBC title in 2005.

Soto is on a 16-bout winning streak dating back to 2002. His last defeat was versus Kevin Kelley, whom the younger Pacquiao recently knocked out.

Nicknamed "The Sniper," Pacquiao (27-11-3, 12 KOs) is coming off an impressive fourth-round knockout win over Kelley last June 10 in New York.

Prior to the victory, he prevailed on a split decision over former world champion Carlos "Famoso" Hernandez.

Although Pacquiao will be cheering at ringside for the July 2 bout between his older brother Manny and Oscar Larios, he's expected to roll up his sleeves and start training right after.

Larios breaks champs' ribs; Pacman hies off to GenSan

By Salven L. Lagumbay, *Contributor*

THE COUNTRY'S BOXING ICON BETTER TAKE NOTE. MEXICAN OSCAR "CHOLO-lo" Larios just broke the ribs of the World Boxing Council bantam champion.

Reports coming out of Tokyo indicate that Larios broke the ribs of WBC bantam champion Hozumi Hasegawa, prompting Hasegawa's titular defense to be re-scheduled.

Larios is expected to plane in today at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport from Tokyo, Japan, where he has been holed up for the past three weeks training for his blockbuster July 2 bout against local hero Manny Pacquiao at the Araneta Coliseum.

Pacquiao, meanwhile, made a quick trip to General Santos City yesterday for a brief reunion with his two kids and wife Jinkee in what will be their last family meeting before he plunges into action versus Larios.

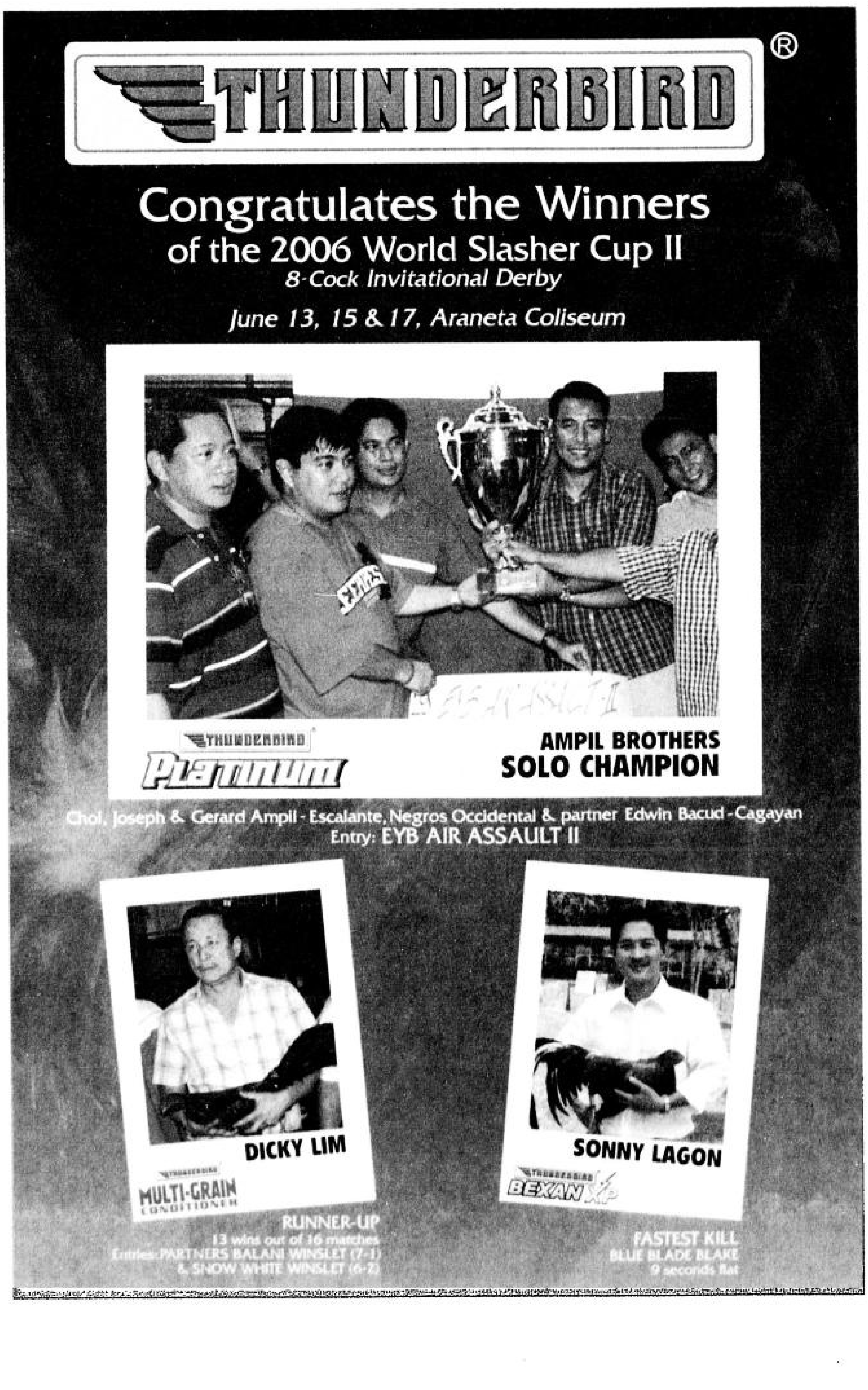
Pacquiao flew on board a corporate jet owned by brewery and food giant San Miguel Corp., but is expected to be back in Manila today to resume his light workouts at the ABSP gym prior to the big event.

Pacquiao was accompanied by his renowned trainer Freddie Roach, who made sure to be present wherever his prized pupil goes, to make sure that nothing goes haywire concerning the conditioning of his million-dollar protege.

"It's just a short trip," said Pacquiao's business associate Rex "Wakee" Salud. "It seems Manny misses his sons and wife. It's just a short family visit."

Salud, however, insisted that Roach is in full control of the situation, and fans are advised not to get too worried on the prospect of Pacquiao deviating from his training regimen.

Salud, who is arranging the line-up of the mammoth July 2 event, also flew back to his home base in Cebu yesterday, but indicated that he will fly back to Manila once Pacquiao returns to the capital.



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Sure blockbuster

By Hermie Rivera

COMMENTARY

MANO A MANO, THE KEENLY AWAITED ring drama starring the irrepressible Manny Pacquiao opens Sunday at the Araneta Coliseum with Mexico's brawler Oscar Larios co-starring in a blockbuster destined to top the charts.

And if you've been following Pacquiao's career, there's really nothing to worry about when he clashes with the ambitious Larios despite his limited hours at the gym.

Trainers, as a rule, bemoan the compromises their fighters make as they fulfill their off-ring obligations in this deeply irrational profession. And Manny's lack of urgency in checking in early at his Hollywood camp sometimes resulted in listless gym works.

However, training hassles are what his chief handler Freddie Roach calls a "thing of the past" as Manny wraps up his heavy work load.

Roach insists his prized ward will launch an early assault on the Mexican's ring arsenal—a wise offensive move that could result in an early ending of this quality match-up.

I have yet to meet someone who is convinced that the slugfest between two of the world's top superfeatherweights will go the distance.

With a plum November assignment against Erik Morales, it behooves the Pacman to wreck whatever battle plans Larios has laid out for their July 2 face off.

True to form, the crowd-pleasing Cotabato southpaw vowed to unleash his tested haymakers on Larios to retain his bragging rights as the best jr. lightweight of the universe.

Pacquiao-Morales III, a certified thriller, entails untold riches, and such a huge payday could only spur the GenSan marvel to get rid of the blocks that could bar him from facing the terrible Mexican in a rubber bout.

The lone impediment standing in the way of Pacquiao acquiring such fortune is the Guadalajara mauler who has been training like Secretariat in a frenzied bid to pull an upset.

Larios, who is bold, tough and owns a right that explodes on impact is unfazed by the odds stacked against him.

The former two-time superbantamweight champion, who is winding up his hectic training, says his excellent preparations has instilled the confidence he needs, which is "more than enough to pull this one out."

As we await the melee which is expected to hit the roof ratings-wise or attendance-wise, demands for tickets has gone "bonkers," prompting padrinos of frantic fight fans to go underground else they'll go shirtless, what with the prohibitive cost of ringside stubs.

These days, sports editors are making themselves scarce for lack of the usual 'complis' for their millions of readers wanting to see the huge fight free.

Unbelievable!

SY CALLS ON GMA: Filipino ace driver Tyson Sy pays a courtesy call on President Macapagal-Arroyo at the Malacañang Palace. The 18-year-old Sy is pacing the overall race of the country-hopping Asian Formula 3 Series.

ENTERTAINMENT

Editor **Emmie G. Velarde**

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Ai-Ai of the storm

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

AI-AI DE LAS ALAS LOVES 'EM AND LEAVES 'em—laughing.

These days, she is seen weeping buckets on television, on account of her role on the ABS-CBN soap opera, "Bituing Walang Ningning" and her recent breakup with boyfriend Jun Hinahon.

The tears have yet to dry and she's already cracking jokes.

"I'm going crazy," she tells INQUIRER Entertainment. "Crying one minute and laughing the next. Sometimes, I can do both at the same time."

Talk about versatility.

"I have no choice. I need to make a living. I need to move on. I can't stay depressed forever. After all that I've been through, [this breakup] is peanuts," she quips.

She cites "incompatibility" as the culprit behind the failure of her five-month relationship with the badminton instructor.

Apparently, becoming Mrs. Hinahon had no calming effect on the manic comic.

Ai-Ai explains that the guy has yet to reach "the level of maturity" required by her high-profile career.

So why did she fall for a 22-year-old—a man 20 years her junior?

She replies: "I was traumatized when I ended up with a married man (Miguel Vera) in the past. I told myself: Never again! But the only bachelors my age (42) are gay, divorced with children, or priests."

True enough, she was recently linked to John Prats, her 22-year-old co-star on "Bituin."

The rumor started when they were seen watching the movie "Cars" together in Eastwood. But she insists that she and her former "Whattamen" co-star are just "close" friends.

"He was also on 'Tanging Ina' the movie," Ai-Ai says. "In fairness, he didn't play my

AI-AI/ A2-2

Yes to 'Kapamilya,' no to being 'Mrs. Hinahon'

AIAI de las Alas

SNOOKY Serna apologizes, though.

'I wasn't fired; I resigned'

By Nini Valera

I WAS NOT FIRED. I RESIGNED."

This was what Snooky Serna told Inquirer Entertainment on Thursday in reaction to a previous report that she was dropped from the cast of the fantaserye "Captain Barbell" for habitual tardiness.

"I admit that I have been late for tapings on several occasions," Snooky said. "But whenever I arrived on the set, I also had to wait for the other stars."

In any case, she said, "I apologize to GMA 7 for causing them problems and costing them money. It is all my fault."

The actress revealed that she lost a six-figure monthly income when she left the show. She was cast in the role of Barbara, mother of Captain Barbell, played by Richard Gutierrez.

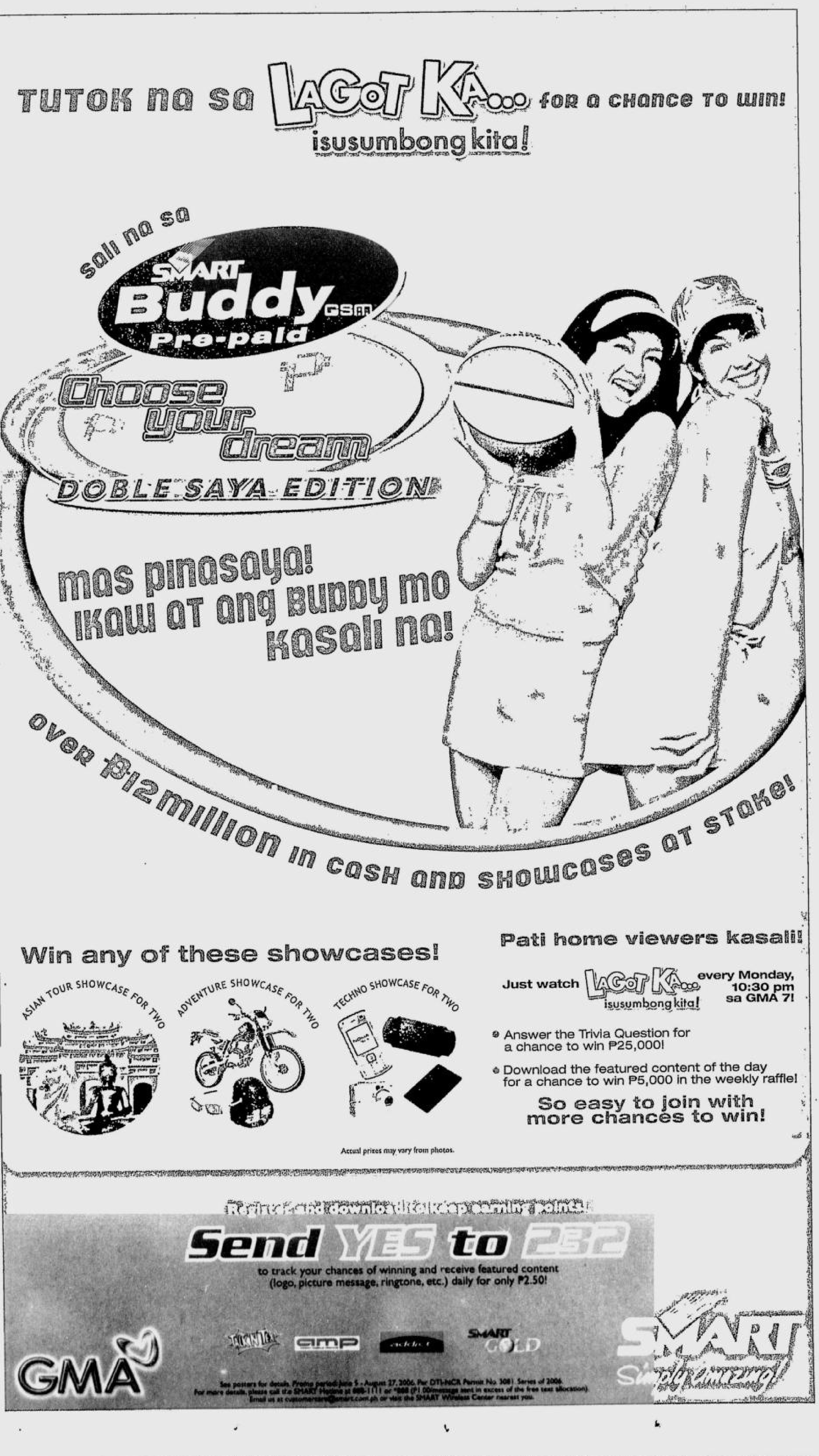
She claimed she had legitimate reasons for not showing up on time during tapings of "Barbell," which airs weeknights on GMA 7. She refused to elaborate.

But she said she had earlier requested for taping schedules that would start after 8 a.m. "I told them I had a hard time reporting that early. I'm a night person."

Her manager, Annabelle Rama, told Inquirer also on Thursday that she had not wanted Snooky to be cast in a TV series, anticipating precisely such a problem.

Speaking in Filipino, Rama said she

I WASN'T/ A2-2



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SNOOKY in the role that she gave up, the mother of Captain Barbell"

'I wasn't fired; I resigned'

From page A2-1

actually asked Wilma Galvante, GMA 7 senior vice president for TV Entertainment, to not even consider Snooky for the series, knowing the actress was "bound to create problems" for her son's (Gutierrez) show.

"In fact," Rama recalled, "one of [their tapings] was packed up because Snooky didn't show up."

Snooky lamented her "mistakes."

"I didn't want it to happen," she said meekly. "I was wrong, and I accept the consequences. But I am not such a bad person. I work hard, and I have a good heart."

She claimed she had apologized to her co-star Richard Gomez, who was reportedly mad at her for causing delays. She said it was unfortunate that her nickname "Pagong (Tortoise)"—given by movie producer Lily Monteverde, by way of describing the former child star's tardiness—seemed to have latched on to her.

"It's not something that I'm proud of," Snooky said.

Focus on child singers' innocence and sense of wonder

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

LAST JUNE 10, CHANNEL 2'S "LITTLE Big Star" kiddie singing search held its second monthly finals. In the "Little" division, the finalists were Carmella, Via and Robert. The third finalist, who was also the smallest, got the juror's nod, and we agreed with the decision.

In the "Big" division, the finalists were Janeth, Charlene and Krissha. We thought that both Janeth and Krissha were exceptional talents, and wondered how the judges would vote.

Well, their decision was unusual—they decided on a tie—so, both Janeth and Krissha will move on to the next round.

That took place June 17, when the "Little" and "Big" champions from Cebu and Davao flew to Manila to compete with Robert, Janeth and Krissha for the "national" monthly crowns.

The grand finals will be held June 28, for telecast on July 1.

It's heartening to see that the tilt has expanded its search for singing talents to include the Visayas and Mindanao, with its separate competitions in Cebu and Davao. Who knows, the big winners this year could come from outside "imperial" Manila.

On the minus side, despite many reminders to do the opposite, "Little Big Star" still makes its kiddie singers look and sound like wee adults, choose songs with inappropriately and sometimes even shockingly adult lyrics about love and lust, favor *"birit"* renditions, copy older and more established singing stars, and focus on hokey, melodramatic, over-gestured performances rather than intelligent, felt and insightful interpretation.

We also wish that the show would stop projecting its young constants as *kawawa* kids who join the tilt so they can buy rice for their families, fund a relative's operation, or repair a leaking roof!

And the kids' parents should similarly stop weighing their children down with "responsibilities" much too heavy for their tender years. It's *parents'* responsibility to support their kids, not the other way around, so let's transfer that load to the right, *adult* shoulders, okay?

We wish our talented child singers well; their parents should do no less. And we should all remind ourselves that these young singers are *children*, so we should treat them as such.

What does that mean? We shouldn't burden them with problems, force them to grow up much to soon, allow them the fun and leisure to be *children*, and encourage the full development and expression of their most beautiful traits—their innocence, and their sense of wonder.

'Seconds from Disaster'

On the National Geographic Channel every Wednesday starting July 5 at 10 p.m., "Seconds from Disaster" deconstructs the chain of events leading up to some of the contemporary history's most tragic disasters.

'Master Class'

Philippine Opera Company's season opens with Terrence McNally's "Master Class," about a class conducted by legendary soprano Maria Callas at the Juilliard School of Music during the '70s. In the play, she recounts her life as the opera world's Grand Dame, and reveals glimpses of her private life as billionaire Aristotle Onassis' mistress.

The POC's production is directed by Baby Barredo and topbills Nolyn Cabahug, Ana Feleo, Glen Gaerlan, Jay Glorioso, Karla Gutierrez, Ceejay Javier, Jojo Malferarri and Michael Williams. Performances run from July 12 to 22 at the Carlos P. Romulo Auditorium, RCBC Plaza. Call 895-8097.

Season Pass

The biggest names in sports and the most exciting sporting events are now available on SkyCable Season Pass. It offers these pay-per-view packages: All 64 2006 FIFA World Cup games. The Boxing Season Pass to witness the Pacquiao vs. Larios "Mano a Mano" bout. And World Wrestling Entertainment tournaments. Call 631-0000.

Tats Faustino

Songwriter, arranger, jingle maker and musical director Tats Faustino has come up with his very own album. The self-titled CD showcases both old and new songs—interpreted the way the composer himself envisioned them to be: "There's Nothing Left Inside," "Say Forever" (a duet with Zsa Zsa Padilla), "Hang On," "Handa Na," "Hindi Magbabago," "Dadalhin" (with Regine Velasquez), "Kuhang-kuha Mo (with Jaya)," "Basta Ikaw," etc.

I Wanna Be Happy'

After well-received comedy movies like "Bridal Shower" and "Liberated," Seiko Films is playing it light and lively again with its July attraction, Joey Reyes' "E Wanna Be Happy."

This time around, however, the film focuses not on nubile bodies, but on a "golden" couple played by "ageless" icon's Gloria Romero and Eddie Garcia.

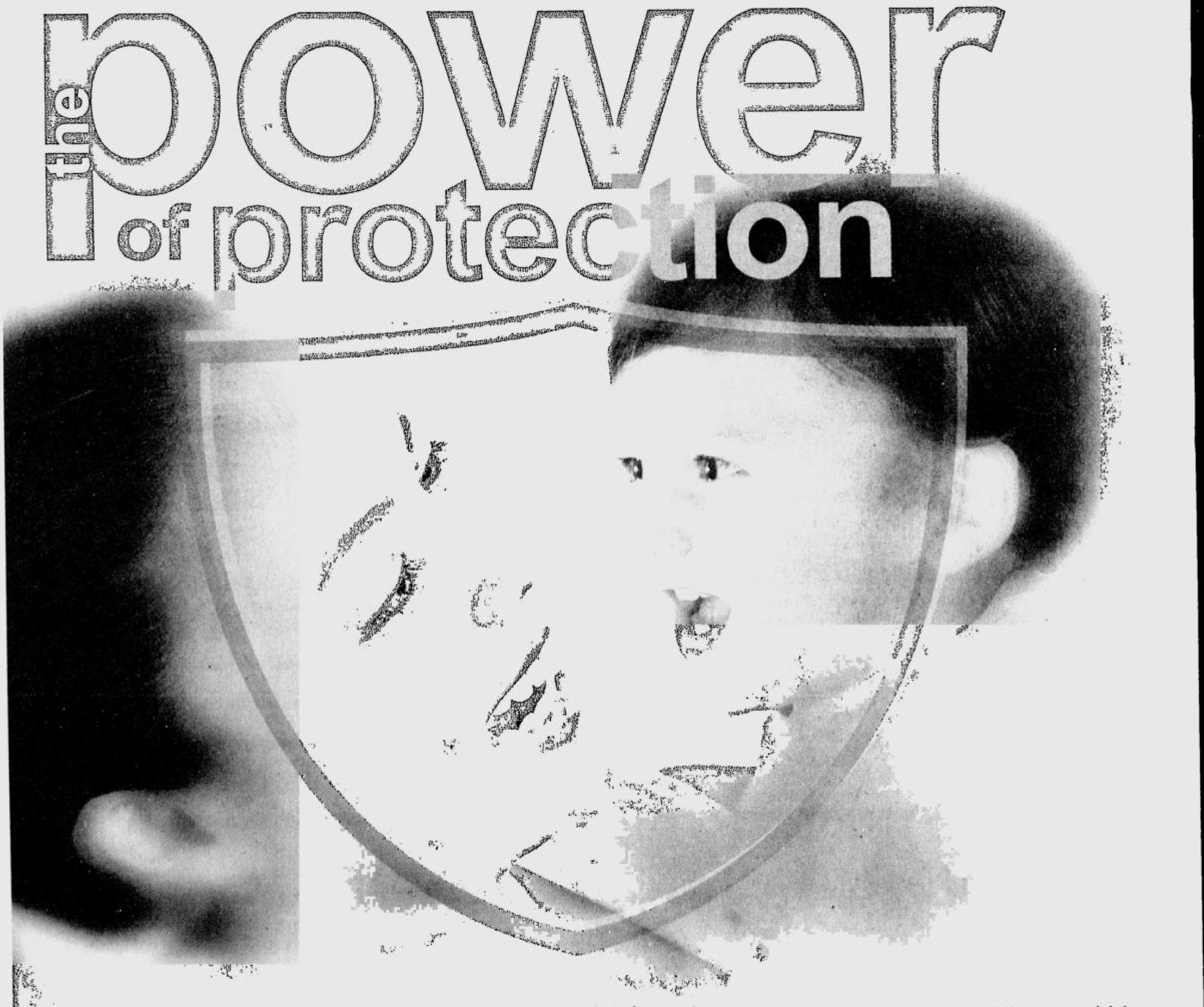
Two months before they mark their 50th wedding anniversary, they suddenly split up! Of course, this rocks their family to its very foundations.

Their children bear the brunt of the "belated and retroactive" trauma: Cherry Pie Picache plays a housewife caught in an unhappy marriage; Joey Marquez is a highly-stressed widower, and Diana Zubiri is a rebel who eschews marriage and prefers to live in with her lover.

Alfred Vargas, Christian Vasquez and Marissa Delgado also star, and Keanna Reeves is cast as Garcia's "diversionary tactic" after his wife leaves him high and dry.

After the children come the grandchildren, and they're at loose ends, too -- Jason Abalos, Dim Ignacio, Michelle Madrigal and Alwin Uytingco unexpectedly get a crash course in love and fidelity when their grandparents.' "solid" marriage abruptly self-destructs.

--Not to worry, though--romance deserves a second chance, even after 50 years, and love, like hope, springs eternal!



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MARK Meily and Bianca King on the set of "Sugar"

And now, mobile phone movies

The audience for new film media is growing, says award-winning filmmaker Mark Meily

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

AWARD-WINNING FILMmaker Mark Meily has set up a production company called Spark Films, which specializes in making short films for cellular phones.

It's the wave of the future, Meily says. "With the advent of 3G technology has come a demand for content made specifically for mobile phones."

As of now, only portions of TV shows can be downloaded on phones, Meily points out, "like three-minute comedy skits from (the GMA 7 gag show) 'Bubble Gang'."

RAFAEL Rosel stars in the phone movie

He says Spark makes "original content." The company is whipping up three- to five-minute movies that boast "high-quality production values."

Meily says he has teamed up with service providers Globe and Smart, as well as cellphone manufacturer Samsung.

For Spark's maiden offering, Meily has tapped ABS-CBN star Rafael Rosel and GMA 7 talent Bianca King to topbill the romantic comedy "Sugar."

"I wrote and directed it, based on a story by Chris Martinez ('Bridal Shower,' 'Bikini Open')," Meily says.

"Sugar" tells the story of sweethearts (Rosel and King) who've reached a plateau in their relationship. "The girl decides to spice things up by assuming a secret identity and conducting a text-message affair with her boyfriend. The problem is, the guy falls for the new girl and they decide to EB (eyeball or meet, in Netspeak)."

"Sugar," according to Meily, is a 15-minute short film divided into three five-minute "mobisodes."

"That's the term used to describe each episode of a mobile short film," Meily explains. "The audience for new media is growing. There's DVD, cable TV, music videos and in-flight entertainment. Apart from cellphone movies, there are also e-movies, which can be downloaded on your personal computer from the Internet."

Ai-Ai: Most bachelors my age are gay, divorced or priests

From page A2-1

on. He was the suitor of Heart Evangelista, who was my daughter."

She relates that she was his confidante at the ime about his love life, about Heart, about anyody. That's why the gossip shocked her.

"People were saying we were kissing and olding hands in public. That's impossible. raty is not the showy type," says Ai-Ai, who alls the actor Praty or Baby Prats.

Ai-Ai says she's not ready to take the big lunge just yet.

Break

"I'm trying not to jump into another relationhip," she says. "In the past, it took me only two nonths. But now, I'll try to be happy on my own or a while. I feel so blessed because my three ids—Sancho, Nicolo and Sofia—will always be ehind me, in good times and bad."

She also has work to keep her occupied. part from the daily soap, she has the Maggi naional tour, as well as concerts here and abroad.

As follow-up to her Bong Revilla movie, "Kaag Tumibok ang Puso (Not Once but Twice)," she is set to do another project with Imus Productions. "Sharon Cuneta will play the wife; I'll be the mistress."

Also in the works are movies with Regal and Viva. The former is "Mano Po 5: Gua Ai Di" and the latter is an untitled comedy with Rufa Mae Quinto.

Comes now the rumor that she would be moving to GMA 7. The flames were fanned by the scuttlebutt that GMA 7 had picked up the *telenovela* version of the *komiks* classic "Bakekang"—a project attached to Ai-Ai's name when it was still being cooked up by ABS-CBN.

"It was a dream project for me, but I'm no longer interested in it because they're not interested in me," says Ai-Ai.

Although Ai-Ai quickly denies the GMA 7 rumor, she acknowledges that she felt miffed when ABS-CBN canceled her two shows—the gabfest "ETK" and the sitcom "My Juan and Only."

She recalls: "In the past, I was reprimanded when I talked about how bad I had felt (about the attention given to 'Pinoy Big Brother' housemates, at the expense of older talents). So I'd rather keep quiet. Dead-ma *na lang*."

Ai-Ai admits that things are still up in the air: "I really don't know what will happen after 'Bituin.' Let's just wait and see. Nothing's sure because my manager (Boy Abunda) has yet to meet with them. Last I heard was, they were asking (director) Wenn Deramas to make another 'Tanging Ina' movie for Star Cinema."

New material

Abunda confirms that he has been assured by the network that it is looking for a new material for Ai-Ai after "Bituin" concludes its run in September. "We'll take it from there. Suffice it to say that if the need arises, I will perform my job as manager, even if it means knocking on the doors of Nickelodeon!"

"As of now, I'm happy with ABS-CBN. At a US concert recently, lots of fans told me they were following 'Bituin' on TFC (The Filipino Channel). That really makes a big difference in a star's career," Ai-Ai says.

AI-AI and kids, clockwise from top: Sancho, Sofia and Nicolo

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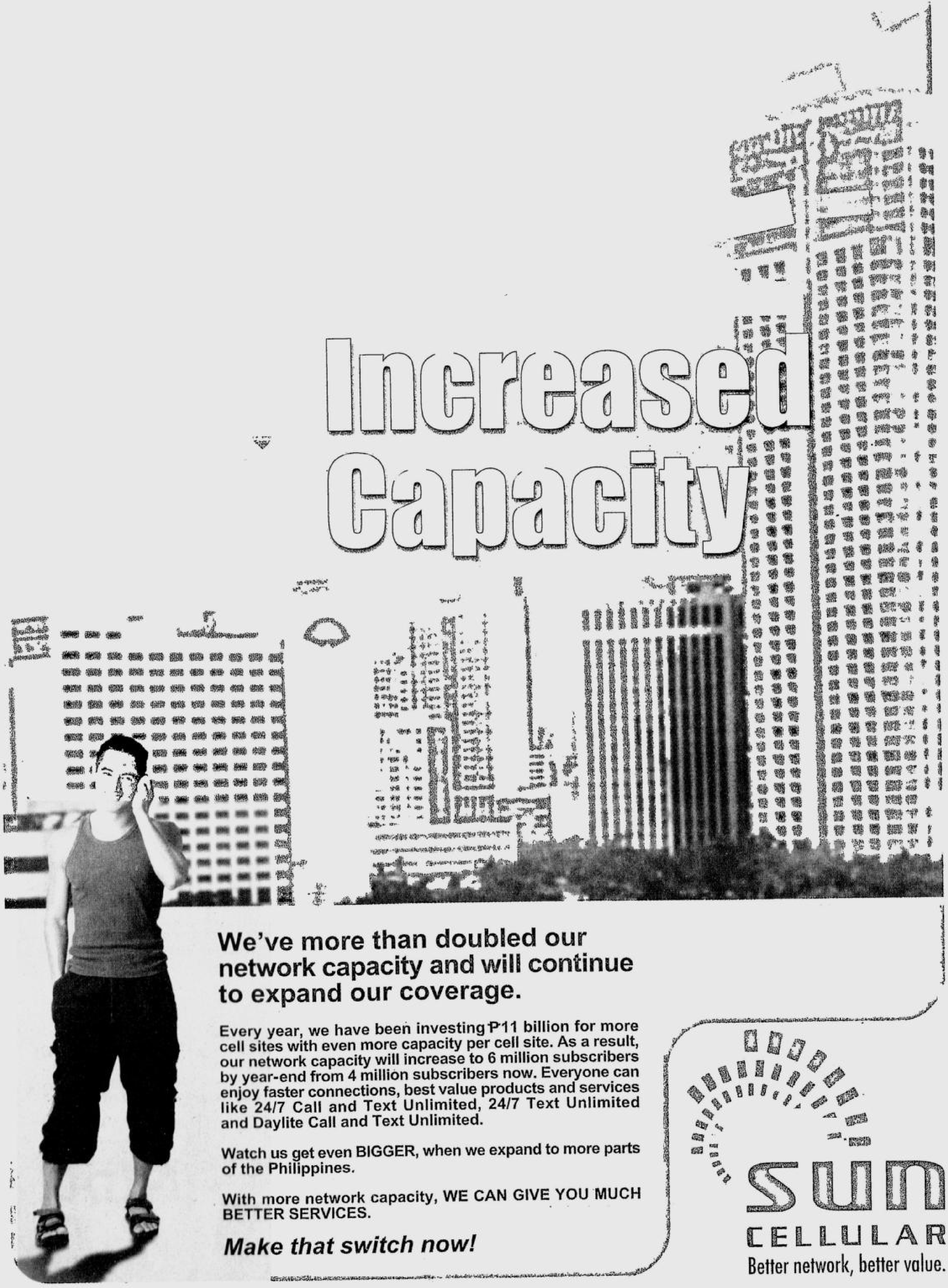

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Palace approves P25-M fund for Film Council co-prods

By Marinel R. Cruz

MALACAÑANG RE-cently approved the P25-million Film Fund for movie producers in a bid to jump-start the ailing film industry, the Film Development Council of the Philippines announced on Friday.

The Council received notice of the approval from the Department of Budget early this month, according to FDCP chief Rolando "Jacky" Atienza.

"We will use the [money] to invest in co-production ventures," Atienza told INQUIRER Entertainment in a phone interview. "A maximum of P5 million will be used per project—or 40 percent of the total project cost, whichever is lower."

Selection committee

National Artist for Film Eddie Romero would head the committee in charge of selecting which movie outfits FDCP would work with, Atienza confirmed also on Friday.

"But we will start disbursing the [cash] only after two-thirds of the project has been finished," Atienza said. "The disbursement shall be on a staggered basis. The producer will receive the last [chunk] after the film print is finished."

Payment or recovery of FDPC's investment would come from the proceeds of the project, he added. "That is why we are making sure the producer will finish the film."

Precisely for this purpose, Atienza said, the Council would form a monitoring committee to be headed by Digna Santiago of Premiere Productions.

Atienza explained that before FDCP could agree to a co-production, it should first approve the script, cast and director, and deem the film commercially viable. The track record of the movie outfit interested in the funding would also be weighed, he said.

"FDCP will give priority to companies who have not produced a 35mm film for the last 12 months. But if the more active producers have better scripts, we will also consider them," Atienza said. "Digital films can also qualify for assistance, as long as they are filmed in HD [high definition] camera equipment and would later be blown up to 35mm."

As co-producer, FDCP would get 25 percent from the total theatrical proceeds of the film, he said. Payment of the Council's investment would also come from ancillary rights (TV/cable, home video sales), which would be assigned to FDCP for six years.

"If the proceeds are valued more than our investment, the excess will be given back to the producer," said Atienza. "All we want is a return of investment. The producer can buy us out of the co-prod deal anytime."

Business deal

He added: "While this is really not a commercial transaction, it has the rigidity of a commercial deal." This means the producer should assure the Council that the production will not spend more that its allotted budget and that the movie will be finished within the agreed period.

The Council would start choosing the first three projects within the next two months, said the FDCP chief, and the producers should start shooting within six weeks, at the latest, upon approval of the funding.

"President Macapagal-Arroyo facilitated approval of the fund, Atienza said. "It's an expression of her support for the industry that we got it sooner than expected."

ROTARY CLUB OF MANILA

WINNERS. From left, GMA 7 reporter Jay Taruc (accepting posthumous award for his father Joe), network president and CEO Felipe L. Gozon, anchorperson Arnold Clavio and reporter/program host Howie Severino.

Rotary's TV Station of the Year

GMA NETWORK was named Television Station of the Year by the Rotary Club of Manila during the 2005 Journalism Awards rites at the Shangri-La Hotel, Makati, on Thursday.

The network was cited for its "outstanding body of work in 2005 covering straight news reporting, investigative journalism as well as public affairs programs and special coverage, all of which have contributed to the public's appreciation and understanding of national and world events."

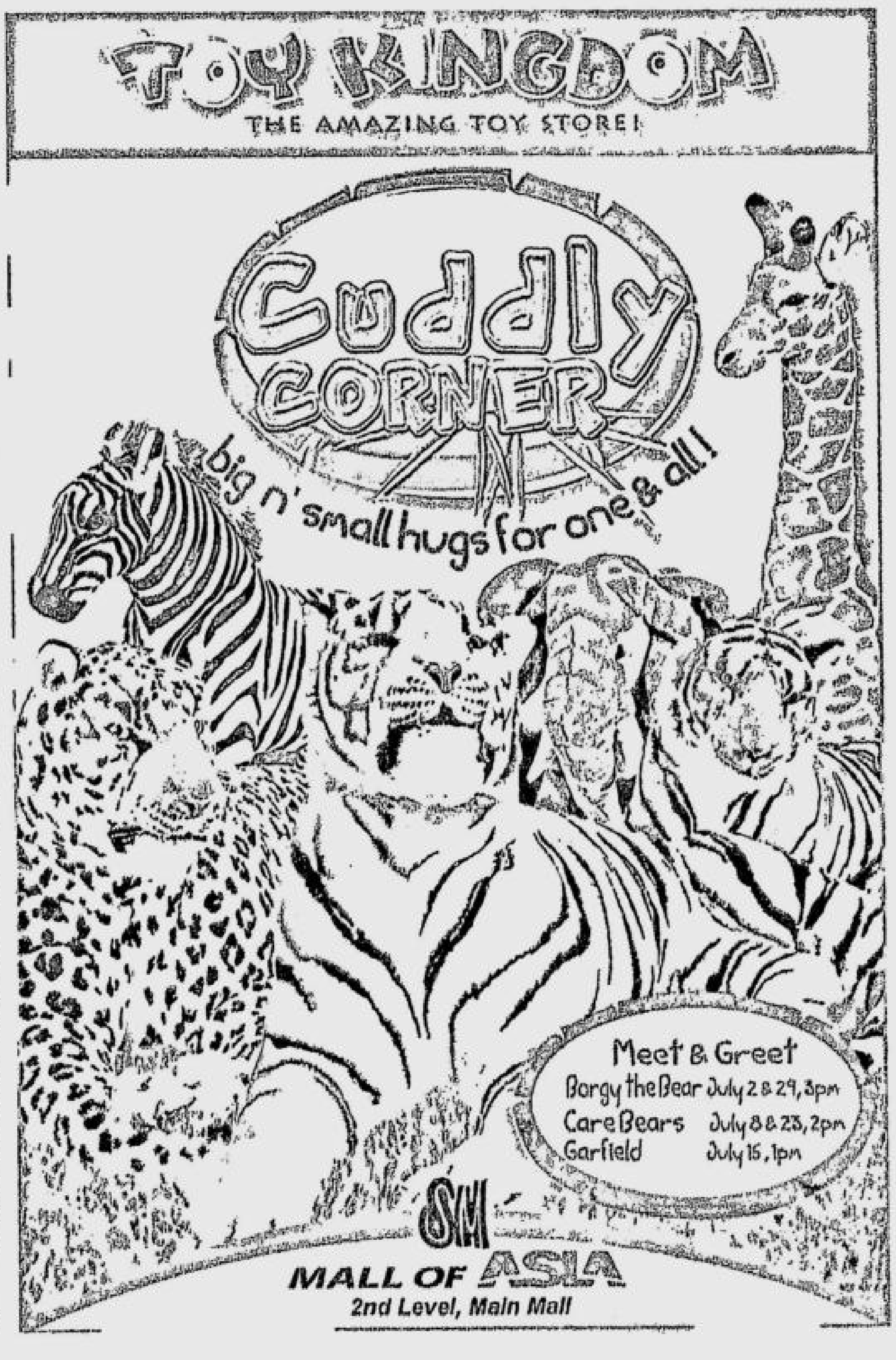
Balanced

"The judges felt that [GMA 7's] news coverage, investigative work and public affairs really represent balanced reporting and in-depth coverage—which is public service," said Tom Banguis, awards chair.

For the past three years, there had been no recipient of the Station of the Year award.

"This could not have come at a better time and let me say we greatly value this," said Felipe L. Gozon, network chair, president and CEO, who received the trophy.

ROTARY'S/ A3-2



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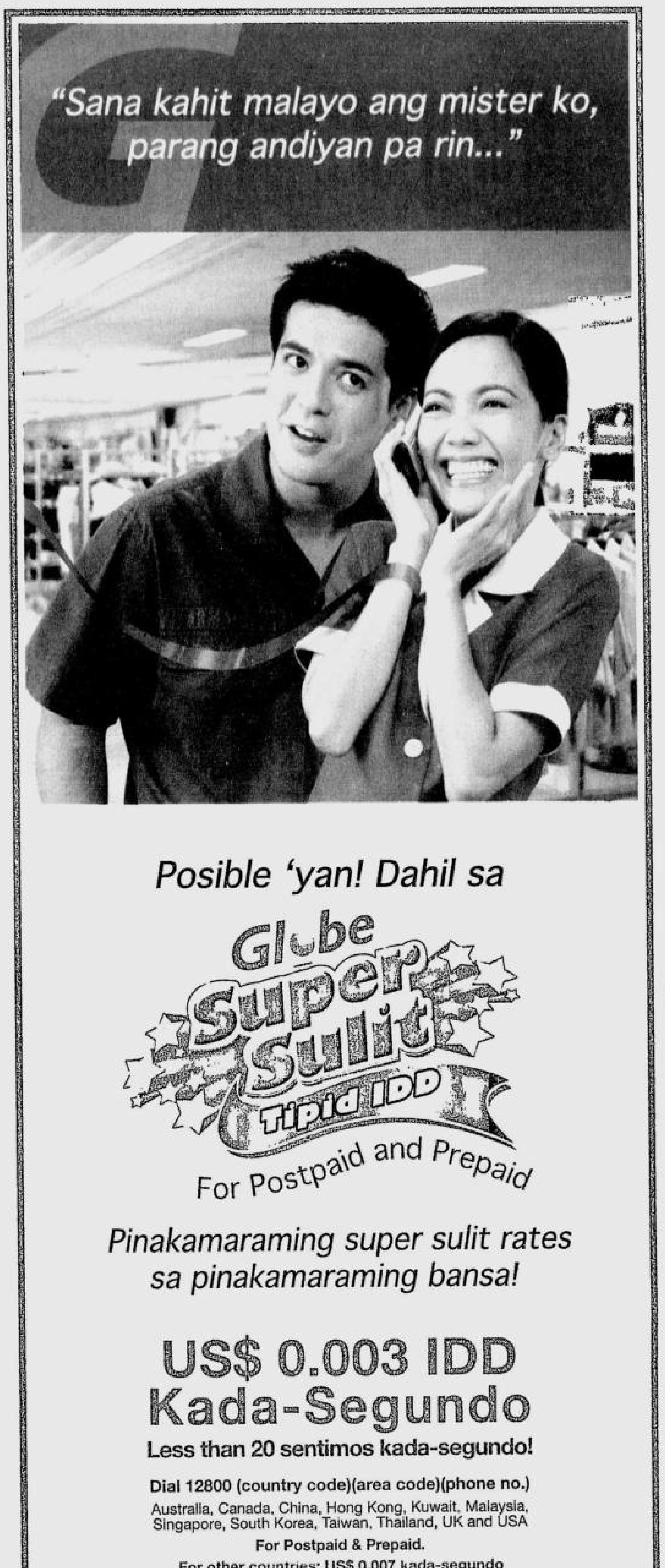

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2 SCARY MOVIE 4
11:20 1:25 3:30 5:35 7:40 9:50

3 AN AMERICAN HAUNTING
1:20 3:30 5:40 7:50 10:00

4 THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS 3
12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

5 VICTORY

6 THE NUN
11:35 1:40 3:45 5:50 7:55 10:00

7 KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO
12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00

8 WHORE
2:00 4:00 6:00 8:00 10:00

9 PACQUIAO THE MOVIE
12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00

10 CARS 12:00 2:30
GARFIELD 2 5:35 7:40 9:45

ERMITA
536-7809 to 12

1 SCARY MOVIE 4
10:20 12:20 2:20 4:20 6:20 8:25 10:00

2 AN AMERICAN HAUNTING
12:00 1:40 3:20 5:00 6:40 8:20 10:00

3 GARFIELD 2 12:00 1:55 3:50
WHORE 6:00 8:00 9:50

4 THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS 3
10:10 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50

5 PACQUIAO THE MOVIE
12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50

6 THE NUN
10:10 12:30 2:50 5:10 7:30 9:50

7 KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO 11:00 3:20
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2 SCARY MOVIE 4
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3 THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS 3
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4 CARS 12:00 2:25 4:50
GARFIELD 2 7:15 9:00

5 AN AMERICAN HAUNTING
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6 LAKE HOUSE
12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:00

7 GARFIELD 2
12:30 2:40 4:50 7:00 9:10

8 THE NUN
12:30 2:40 4:50 7:00 9:10

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5 KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO
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CARS
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SECRET OF THE COD

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GARFIELD 2
XMEN III
THE NUN
SCARY MOVIE 4
PACQUIAO THE MOVI
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LAKE HOUSE
CARS
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KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO
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THE NUN
TAKE THE LEAD
LAKE HOUSE

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LAKE HOUSE
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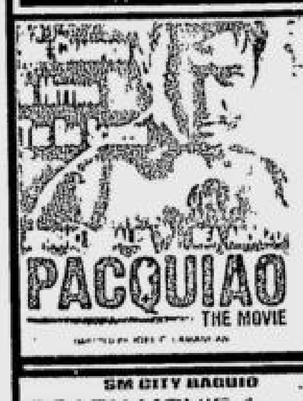

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FEEDBACK

News on TV

From Loi Reyes Landicho, Guadalupe, Makati City, for Nestor Torre, columnist:

I never fail to catch the news on television, and I share your views on the appalling state of these supposedly serious shows on TV.

Some of my observations and a few suggestions:

1) Our local newscasts are very long.

2) The formats are labyrinthine. To quote Anabelle Rama in an ad: "Sumasakit ang ulo ko sa inyo!"

3) In an attempt to lure more viewers, they capitalize on inane reporting of entertainment non-events. For example:

- "Angel Locsin *at* Oyo Sotto, *masaya sa taping ng bago nilang pelikula*."
- "Maui Taylor, *ayaw ibalik ang sings-ing na regalo ni* Brian Revilla."
- "Francine Prieto, *hinimatay*."

So what?

4) No attributions, Cloudy sourcing.

5) A penchant for taglines and catchphrases. I have been watching CNN newscasts for years, and have never heard anything like, "*Nagbabalita saan man sa mundo*."
Owwwws???

Or, "*Kasama n'yo sa pagtuklas ng katotohanan*." Call CSI quick!

Or, "*Serbisyong totoo lang*." Let the viewers say that.

6) Wanted: More sports items.

On the brighter side, newscasts now include tips, how to's, and do's and don'ts that I find informative and useful. Like, where to shop for inexpensive school supplies;

and what to do in case of a fire, an earthquake or a volcanic eruption.

For these positive developments, more power!

Rotary's TV . . .

From page A3-1

Two of the station's news and public affairs personalities were likewise honored—Arnold Clavio as Broadcast Journalist of the Year for TV and Howie Severino as Investigative Journalist of the Year for TV.

Clavio was cited "particularly for his outstanding coverage of breaking events in 2005, such as the Valentine's Day bombing, and developments in the 'Hello Garci' controversy."

Severino was awarded "for outstanding, in-depth coverage of the stories behind the news, which help viewers gain a better appreciation of the people and circumstances behind the stories." The judges found "his body of work in 2005, including reportage on out-of-school youth, the sad state of Filipino classic movies and the Manila Film Center tragedy [as] outstanding examples of his craft."

Rivermaya's hits collection a must-have

SPIN CITY

RIVERMAYA'S "GREATEST HITS 2006—The Ultimate Collection" is a must-have. The liner notes written by front man Rico Blanco is brief, to-the-point and sincere: "The compilation you hold in your hands contains the classics we consider our best work so far. These are the songs I hold closest to my heart."

These songs are: "Posible," "Umaaraw, Umuulan," "Liwanag sa Dilim," "Balisong," "'Wag na Init Ulo Baby," "Sunday Driving," "A Love to Share," "241," Makaaasa Ka," "Atat," "Basketbol," "Ipo Ipo," "Faithless," "Ambulansya" and "Alab ng Puso (Tagumpay)."

Granted, several of these songs go back to the time of Bamboo when he was still with the group. Rivermaya loyalists need only this enumeration of titles; the newly turned-on shouldn't be encumbered with another's perception.

We like it.

Rivermaya, contract artists of Viva Records, won the top prize at the recent 1st MYX Music Awards—Favorite Video, for "You'll Be Safe Here" (post-Bamboo). The song, used in the TV series "Spirits," was also named Favorite Media Soundtrack.

Rivermaya is currently working on their first studio album in three years.

More winners

Two other MYX winners from Viva Records were Rachelle Ann Go, Favorite Female Artist, and Mark Bautista, Favorite Remake, for "I Need You," originally by Side A, and the first single out of Mark's second album "Dream On." The video directed by GB San Pedro featured actress Ann Curtis.

Go also won Favorite Mellow Video for "From the Start."

MYX is the music video channel of ABS-CBN.

Christian
Bautista

PLEASANT surprise

On his own

TATS Faustino—songwriter, arranger, musical director and jingle writer—is now a singer as well. The composer of such hits as Gary V's "Hang On" and Randy Santiago's "Hingo Magbabago" recently released his very own self-titled album.

He composed, arranged and produced every one of the 11 tracks, including duets with Zsazsa Padilla, Regine Velasquez and Jaya.

Pleasant surprise

A VERY pleasant surprise is Christian Bautista's latest album, "Completely." Track No. 1, "Everything You Do," reminds the listener that the young man can sing quite well indeed. But our reaction to the next three tracks—although very likely candidates as local hits, just like the first—is, "Yeah, yeah, we know ..."

And then comes "She Could Be," and we are jolted back to attention. Fast forward to track No. 7, "After You," and No. 8, "Please Don't Go." At this point we are listening with freshly perked ears... only to wind down again through the last four tracks.

But hey, those three numbers establish Christian as a recording artist and performer who's willing to take risks. And guess what, he wrote both lyrics and music for "Please Don't Go." "She Could Be" is credited to A. Roman, Andrew Fromm and Christopher Rojas. Mark Spiro and Steven Rosan wrote the music and lyrics to "After You."

RIVERMAYA

"HIGH School Musical"

'High School Musical'on Disney Channel

KID FIT

THE PHENOMENAL MUSICAL ABOUT THE tween generation comes to Asia via Disney Channel today at 7:30 p.m.

"High School Musical," the Disney Channel Original Movie about kids wanting to break from the mold to perform in the high school stage musical, captures Asian tweens in dazzling showstopping numbers—amidst the turmoil of teen romance.

The musical tells the story of cage star Troy (Zac Efron) and brainy Gabriella (Vanessa Hudgens), who both have a secret passion for performing on stage. When the opportunity comes for a stage musical, they try to get a shot for the lead roles, much to the dismay of siblings Sharpay (Ashley Tisdale of "The Suite Life of Zack and Cody") and Ryan (Lucas Gabreel).

Zac and Gabriella's sudden show of theatrical interest adds up to the chagrin of Zac's basketball teammates who are preparing for a championship game, and Gabriella's fellow Chemistry Club members who are cramming for the upcoming quiz bee.

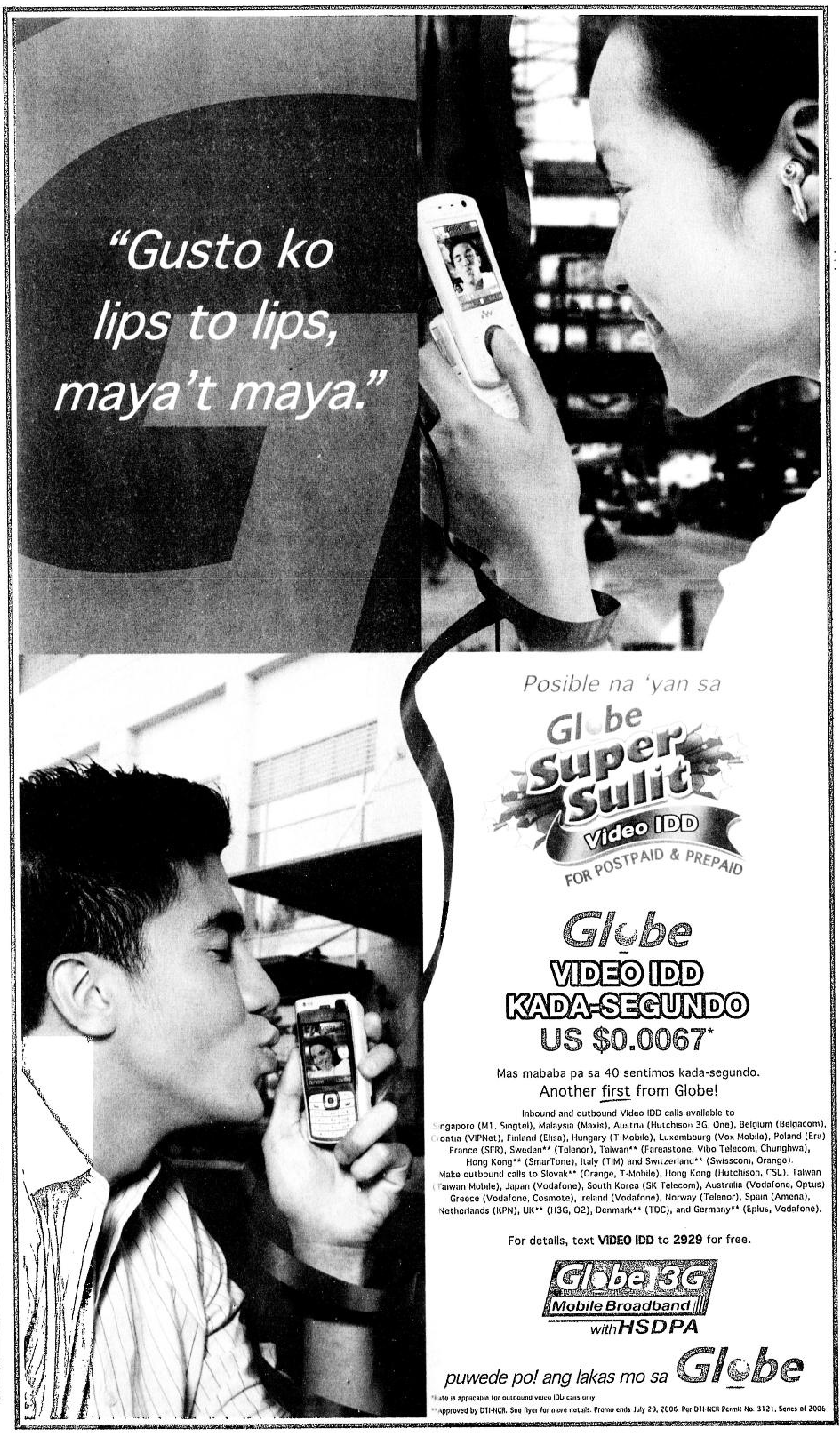
'Gameplan' to Banaue

LEARN the basics of land navigation as "Gameplan" hosts Paolo Soler and Wowie Meloto follow the action in "Beat D' Terraces," the 1st Banaue Orienteering Challenge. Thirteen teams show off their orienteering skills as they navigate through the 2000-year-old maze-like engineering marvel. The show hosts also ride Banaue's infamous wooden scooters. The trip airs on Studio 23 today at 1:30 p.m.

Superman for kids

AN EVENING of love, hope and inspiration awaits children of the Make-A-Wish Foundation with "First Night," a "Superman Returns" fundraising movie event mounted by design company Ethos Strategy, to celebrate its first anniversary. The special screening is set on June 28 at Cinema 4 of the Rockwell Power Plant Mall. Rockwell Cinemas will distribute snack packs.

"SUPERMAN"



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Engelbert Humperdinck at Big Dome on Tuesday

ENGELBERT HUMPERDINCK, ONE OF THE most acclaimed male performers of the '60s, returns to Manila to for a concert on Tuesday at the Araneta Coliseum.

Billed as "The Romance Is Back: Engelbert Live in Manila!," the one-night only event from Viva Concerts and Events brings back the successful artist known for the classic hits "Release Me," "Quando, Quando, Quando," "The Way It Used To Be," "Strangers In The Night," "After The Loving," "Dance The Night Away," "Spanish Eyes," "There Goes My Everything" and "Am I That Easy To Forget."

Tickets are at P6,000, P5,000, P3,000, P1,500 and P500. Call 911-5555.

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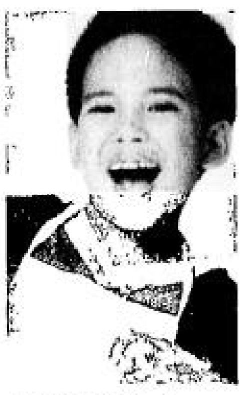

BJ "Tolits" Forbes

Bum rocks

Bum Equipment pays tribute to decades-old rock n' roll, in an afternoon of music and fashion on July 7, 5 p.m., at the open car park of SM City North Edsa.

6Cyclemind stars in the concert that will serve as backdrop for the runway show featuring the clothes shop's celebrity endorsers Danilo Barrios, LJ Reyes, Rico Barreira, Glaiza de Castro and Iwa Moto.

Tolits

The BJ "Tolits" Forbes Dance Hits album mall tour goes to Robinsons Angeles today at 5 p.m.

Tolits will dance to "Hey Oh Capuccino" and other hits from the album released by Universal Records.

An autograph signing session follows the free show.

Today

Cascades 2006 World Tour at Manila Hotel

Erik Santos at Metropoint

Lynn Sherman at RJTV Bar

Solace at SM City Clark

Tomorrow

Jojo A All the Way and Gimme A Break at RJTV Bar

Strings of Soul and Dindo at Tavern on the Square

Silk and Steel at Merk's Bar Bistro, Greenbelt 3

Dance Diva at Bronx Dance Bar

June 27

Jojo A All the Way and Gimme A Break at RJTV Bar

Julianne and Sitti at Tavern on the Square

Engelbert Humperdinck at the Araneta Coliseum

Aretha and the Souled Out Band at Merk's Bar

BUM image models

ENGELBERT Humperdinck

KAMIKAZEE

June 28

Kamikazee at University of Mindanao

Jojo A All the Way and Gimme A Break at R JTV Bar

RJ at Discovery Suites' Serendipity Lounge

The Dorques andSession Road at Tavern on the Square

Wednesday Jazz Festival at Merk's Bar with Richard Merk, Eddie Katindig and Judith Banal

Cascades 2006 World Tour at the Hard Rock Café Makati

June 29

Jojo A All the Way and Gimme A Break at RJTV Bar

Sandilea and MYMP at Tavern on the Square

Acoustic Jive at Merk's Bar

June 30

RJ 'n Friends and Moonstrucks at RJTV Bar

Go Girls album launch at Bronx Dance Bar

Fat Session at Tavern on the Square

Cascades 2006 World Tour in Davao City

MTV Live Sessions at Café Lupe featuring Orange and Lemons

Solace at SM North Edsa

July 1

Cascades 2006 World Tour in Cagayan de Oro City

July 2

Erik Santos at SM Fairview

July 7

Manhattan Transfer at the Araneta Coliseum with Richard Merk

Backroom Musical Caravan with Erik Santos, Frenchie Dy, Kim Flores, K and the Boxers and Rufa Mae Quinto in Marbel City

July 8

Backroom Musical Caravan with Erik Santos, Frenchie Dy, Kim Flores, K and the Boxers and Rufa Mae Quinto in Marbel City

July 9

Erik Santos at SM Batangas

July 15

Erik Santos and Sheryn Regis at Summit Center, Zamboanga City

July 16

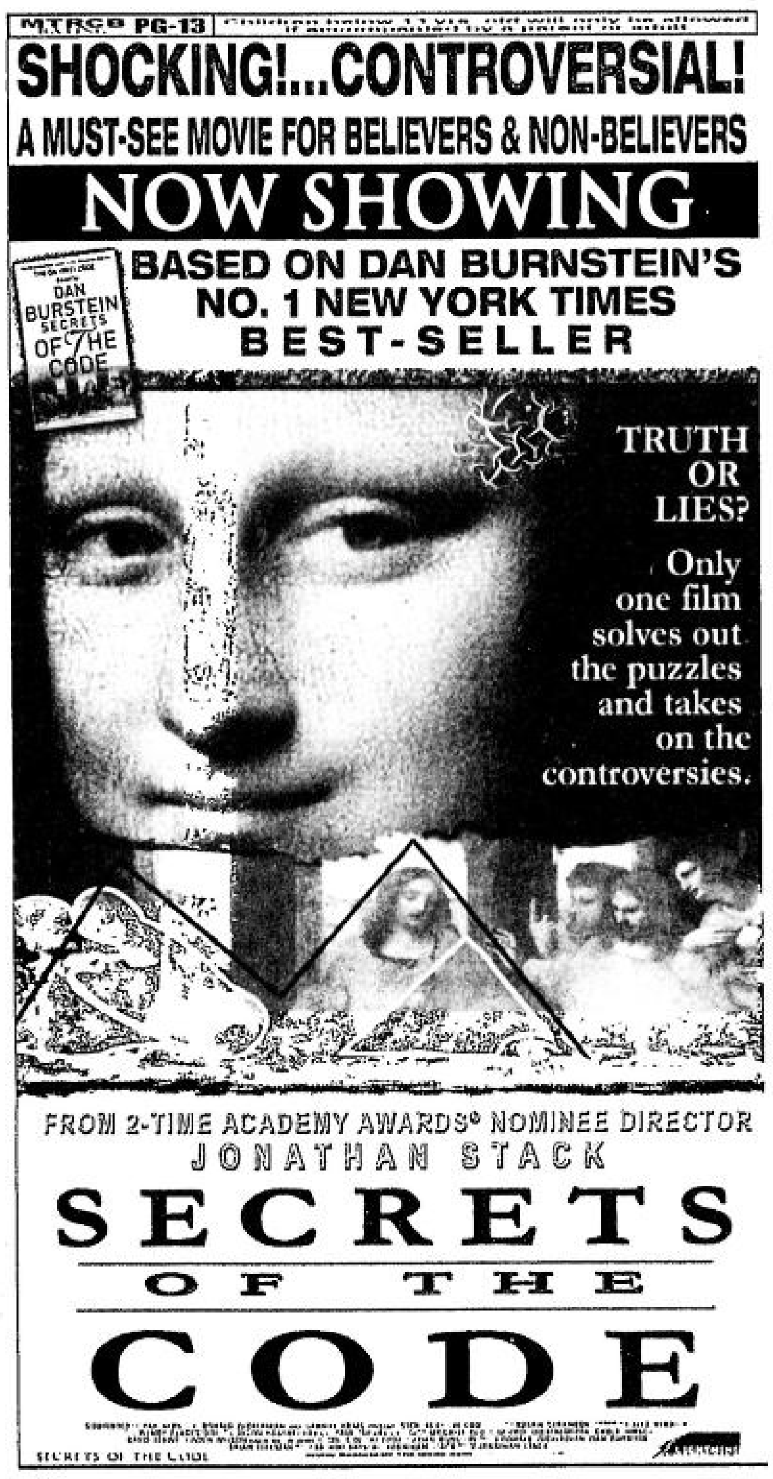
Erik Santos at Pavilion Mall

July 23

Erik Santos at SM Marilao

July 30

Erik Santos at SM Clark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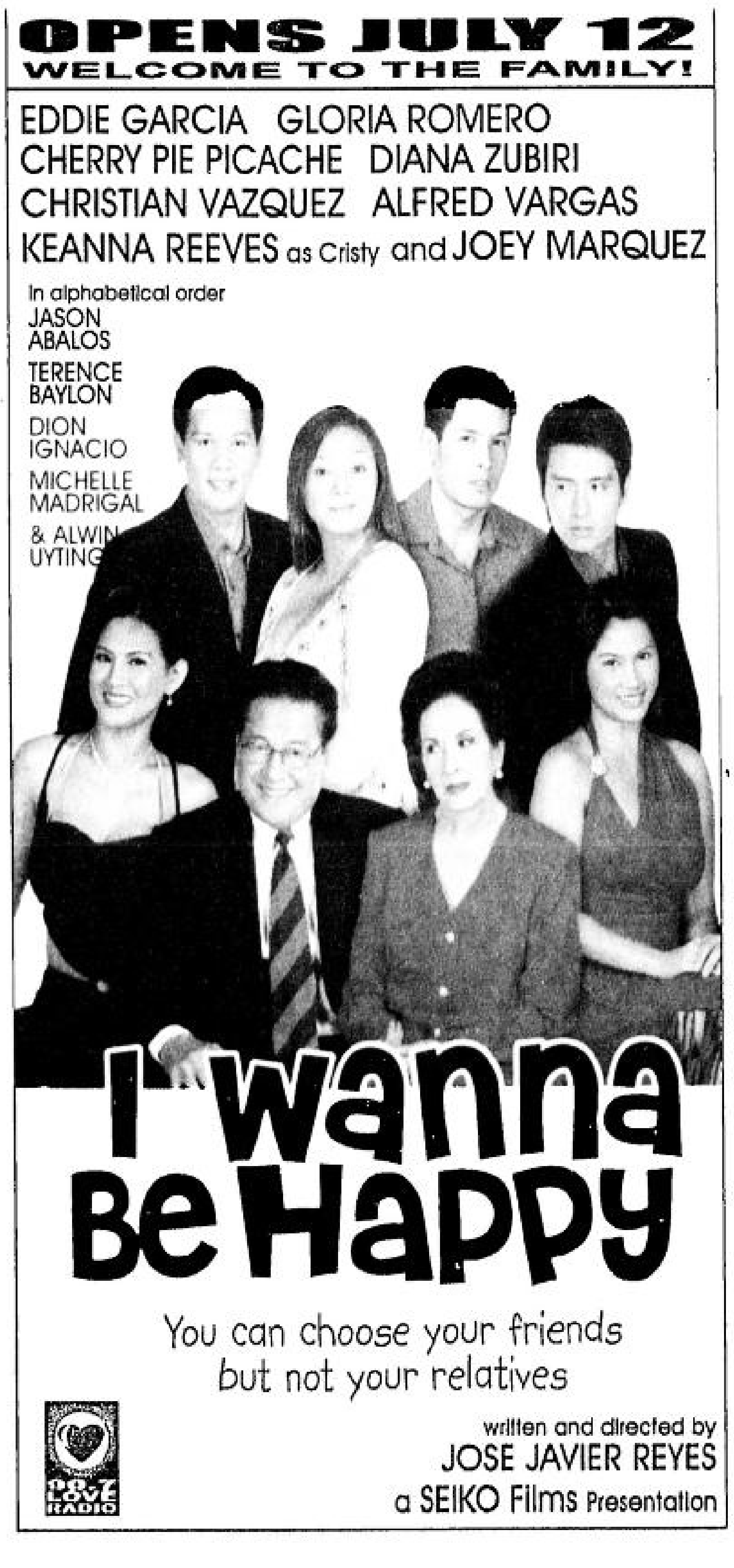
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In alphabetical order
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Sex therapy sans tiptoeing

By Oliver M. Pulumbarit
Contributor

REVIEW

THE MOVIE "KINSEY" DOESN'T MINCE words or scrimp on sexual imagery. It's a compelling biopic that shines on different facets of the controversial sex instructor Alfred Kinsey's struggle-filled but fruitful life. The film probes and prods, and comes up with enlightening conclusions on the ever-changing attitudes concerning sexual behavior. It revels in its relevance while providing insightful clinical education. The biologist-professor's findings, aptly enough, don't seem to be a separate entity from his own personal growth. (Yes, it seems he mostly practiced what he preached.)

"Kinsey" is unusually cerebral, which makes the experience especially important and very much worth it. Auteur Bill Condon has handled sensuality and obsession with expertise before in "Gods and Monsters," and it's no surprise that he credibly deconstructs a forward-thinking figure to the core once again. Dr. Kinsey (Liam Neeson) is a rare, driven individual who authored a popular health book, "Sexual Behavior in the Human Male," in 1948. We see his development from a guilt-ridden teen to a liberated pioneer, his thirst for truth studded with personal and sexual milestones through decades of non-conformity. His intellectual progression is shared by his wife (Laura Linney) and trusted researchers (Chris O'Donnell, Peter Sarsgaard, Timothy Hutton).

Intimate details

The film unabashedly tackles the intimate details of its characters' sexual histories. Topics that rarely, if ever, get discussed in school or at home are dissected minus the awkward tiptoeing. The intricacies of sex and the behavior relating to it—from feelings of inadequacy to secret desires, from homosexuality to extra-marital affairs—get a share of the spotlight, being inexorably bonded to Kinsey's firsthand experiences.

LIAM NEESON as Dr. Alfred Kinsey

"Kinsey" champions the once-enshrouded trove of knowledge and lifestyles that the title character is open to, and, understandably, presents the prudish and non-adventurous as antagonists. John Lithgow's commanding performance as Kinsey's ultra-conservative and despicable father provides a sharp contrast and thus becomes his antithesis, a person who teaches "morality disguised as fact." There are captivating performances aplenty here. Aside from Lithgow, Neeson, and Linney, those who stand out in the exceptional ensemble are Sarsgaard (as Kinsey's bisexual protégé), and William Sadler (who appears as an unrepentant pervert).

The film establishes Dr. Kinsey as a man who didn't have all the answers but was willing to learn, even when he's oblivious to his own manipulations and mistakes. Through an uneven but free-flowing use of techniques, including choppy montages of Kinsey's interviewees and occasional black-and-white sequences, Condon adds visual quirk and texture to the lengthy story.

"Kinsey" is practically a thick sex education pamphlet, yup, but it's easy to connect with it. That is, without much resistance.

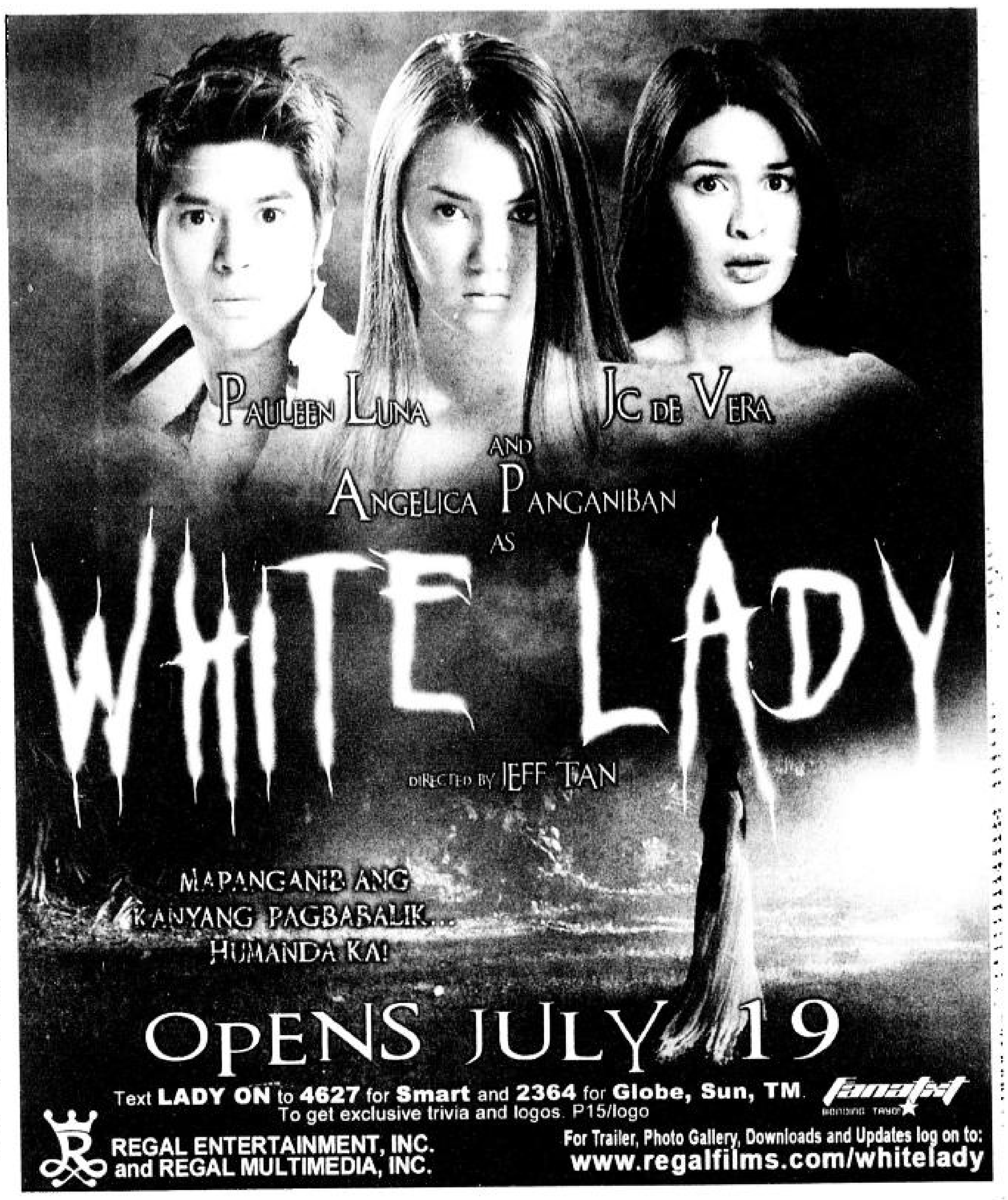
Harry Potter, Captain Hook & the queen

CHEER FACTOR

LONDON—HARRY POTTER AND CAPTAIN Hook will be hot on the trail of the queen's stolen handbag today at one of the most surreal garden parties ever staged at Buckingham Palace.

To celebrate her 80th birthday, Britain's Queen Elizabeth has invited 2,000 children to her London residence for a Mad Hatter's Tea Party with children's characters Winnie the Pooh and Paddington Bear joining forces with Thomas the Tank Engine.

Reuters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	4 KINSEY	5 CARS	6 SCARY MOVIE 4	7 THE SECRET OF THE CODE
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GB3 GREENBELT 3	1 THX THE LAKE HOUSE 1:20, 2:20, 4:20, 6:20, 8:20, 11:20 GUARANTEED SEATS	2 THX SCARY MOVIE 4 1:20, 2:20, 4:20, 6:20, 8:20, 11:20 GUARANTEED SEATS		
	3 KINSEY 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 9:00, 11:30 GUARANTEED SEATS	4 GARFIELD 2 - 1:30, 3:15, 5:00, 6:45 INSIDE MAN - 8:26, 10:45 GUARANTEED SEATS	5 CARS 1:26, 3:45, 6:05, 8:26, 10:45 GUARANTEED SEATS	
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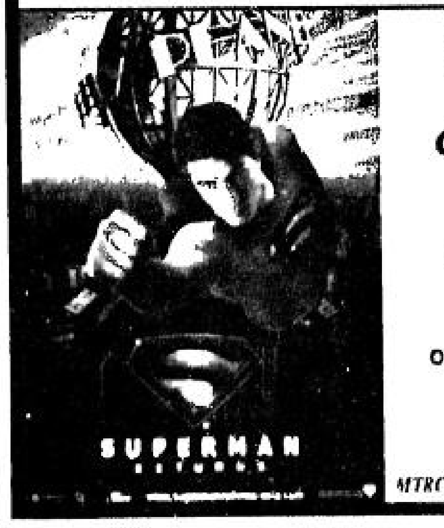

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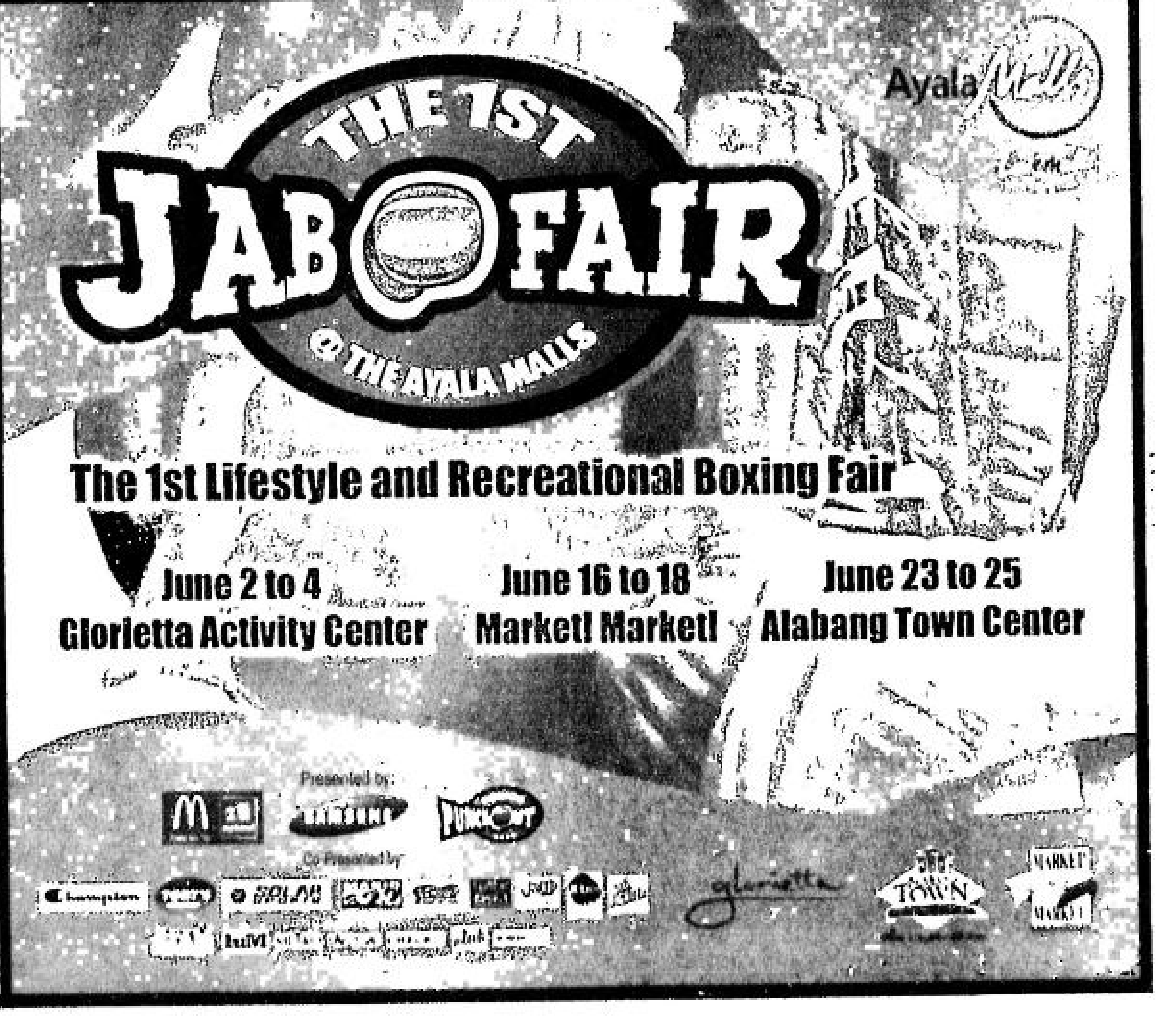


Robin & Regine — confirmed!

SHARON CUNETA

CLAUDINE BARRETTO

A REPORT THAT FIRST CAME OUT IN this section has been confirmed by GMA Films president Annette Gozon-Abrogar:

Robin Padilla has signed up with the Kapuso's film arm, and his first project is a romantic-comedy with Regine Velasquez.

"It's a love story entitled 'Till I Met You,' after the old Kuh Ledesma song, but it's going to be age-appropriate," Abrogar told INQUIRER Entertainment.

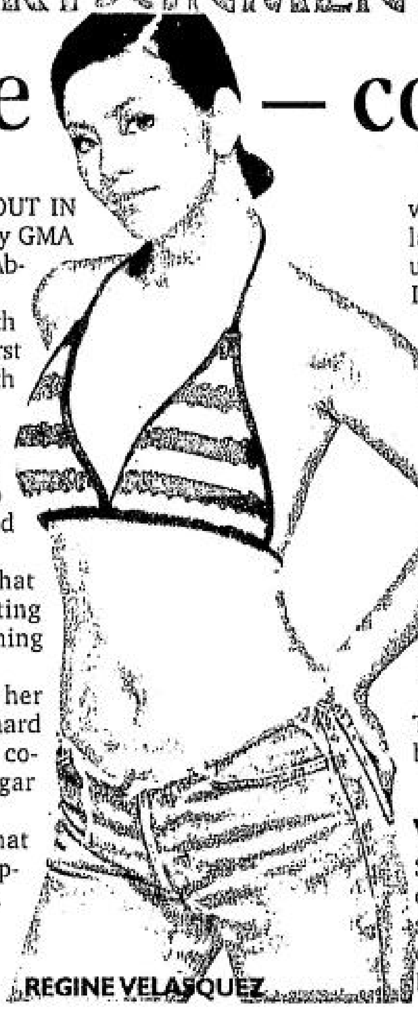
Abrogar also confirmed that Megastar Sharon Cuneta is meeting with GMA Films for an upcoming project.

"We are thinking of casting her with one of our talents, like Richard Gutierrez. She is planning to co-produce the film with us," Abrogar said.

Abrogar likewise revealed that "Darna the Movie" will be top-billed by TV Darna Angel Locsin.

In the works

OTHER movie projects in the works are the first pairing of Regine Velasquez and Bong Revilla and/or the reunion of Sharon Cuneta and Revilla for Imus Productions.


REGINE VELASQUEZ

Revilla told the press recently that he is also mulling a project with fellow Senator Jinggoy Estrada.

His statement prompted a movie reporter to gasp: "Please, no!"

Touché

ON the small screen, ABS-CBN is cooking up a new soap with Claudine Barretto and Piolo Pascual as lead stars.

Where does this leave Piolo's present partner on "Sa Piling Mo," Judy Ann Santos?

Juday herself told INQUIRER that her next TV project, either a sitcom or a soap, would be with real-life beau Ryan Agoncillo.

Tit for tat.

Waiting game

SPEAKING of Piolo... he has been very vocal about his wish to woo "Sa Piling Mo" co-star Rica Peralejo. In fact, he has told everyone (including the press and Rica's ex, Bernard Palanca) about it.

According to reporters, however, Piolo has yet to begin his suit.

RUSHES

AGA MUHLACH

ANNE HATHAWAY

Power!

CENSORS, eat your heart out.

A powerful TV executive was not pleased when sarcastic comments of network stars saw print in a glossy mag.

Before the issue was released in the market, the exec ordered the offending sentences covered—as in, each copy had to be pasted with blank pieces of paper.

Funny thing was, the "censorable" pages could still be discerned in front of any light.

TKO'd movie

IS it true that the punch of "Pacquiao the Movie" was hardly felt at the tills? It reportedly made only P300,000 as of 3 p.m. on its opening day.

Has business picked up?

Totally domesticated

AGA Muhlach on himself today: "I'm happiest when I'm with my wife, watching our kids Andres and Atasha grow up. There are mornings when I find myself just staring at my children as they run around. When I'm away from my family for even just a day, I call them constantly, to ask what they're doing".

This is probably why he is Globe's newest celebrity endorser. Commercial deals imitate life?

Fun in the rain

ACTRESS Cherie Gil told friends Jaclyn Jose and Bembol Roco her experience during her birthday (June 21) trip to Boracay Island: "It was raining there, but I had fun."

After that tsunami, what's a rainshower?

Cherie can't stay away from the sea, it seems. Her latest movie is "Donsol," about another famous island, this one in Sorsogon.

Packs a wallop

LISBON—Actress Mia Farrow admits the widely panned horror film "The Omen" is no art house masterpiece but defends it as devilish fun that draws a good crowd.

"I never expected that this would be some high-brow success," Farrow, who plays a nanny from hell in the remake of the 1976 son-of-Satan chiller, told reporters. "I'm happy that people are enjoying it, it packs a wallop."

Critics have slammed "The Omen"—the New York Times called it "terminally glum and waterlogged"—but the movie has done well at the box office, posting the best-ever opening on a Tuesday in its US launch this month. *Reuters*

Pay up, Seal

LONDON—British pop star Seal will have to pay his former manager commission of at least 500,000 pounds on earnings from his first two albums following a ruling in London's High Court on Thursday.

Justice Charles Gray ruled the Grammy award-winning singer ("Kiss From a Rose," "Crazy") was contractually obliged to pay the commission—more than 10 years after they stopped working together.

The judge backed a claim by John Wadlow, who was Seal's manager until 1995. *Reuters*

Kylie's full sked

MELBOURNE—Pop star Kylie Minogue will complete the world tour she called off a year ago after being diagnosed with breast cancer with a series of concerts in Australia later this year, her Australian tour manager said Thursday.

The shock diagnosis interrupted the Australian-born star's biggest global tour, and her return to the stage after undergoing cancer treatment has been highly anticipated in her home country and her longtime base in London. *AP*

No drugs

NEW YORK—Anne Hathaway, last seen in "Brokeback Mountain" and starring with Meryl Streep in "The Devil Wears Prada," on how she stays out of trouble: "I don't drink, I don't do drugs. I was raised in a solidly upper-middle class family who had really strong values." *AP*

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First look at 'Pirates' sequel ... and guess what? Woody Allen fancies Scarlett Johansson

JOHNNY Depp in "Pirates"

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD
Ruben V. Nepales

LOS ANGELES—"Welcome to the first-ever screening of 'Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest,'" announced blockbuster producer Jerry Bruckheimer last Wednesday evening inside a theater packed with media folks at a multiplex in Century City.

Amid cheers, the opening credits of the much-awaited sequel to the first "Pirates" movie rolled on the big screen. We don't want so spoil the fun for "Pirates" fans so we'll just say that among the things to watch for are 1) Johnny Depp as a "human shish kabob"; 2) a twist in the relationship between the characters played by Johnny, Keira Knightley and Orlando Bloom; and 3) a spectacular swordfight on a rolling water mill.

Last Thursday, we interviewed the cast led by Johnny, one of our all-time favorite subjects. We asked the actor for his comment on Keira's reply on the question, "Who is a better kisser, Johnny or Orlando?" *Abangan.*

Imagine Woody ...

Can you imagine Woody Allen, one of the greatest wits of our time, watching reruns of "Baywatch"?

Read on to find out why New York's famous comic intellectual keeps the channel on Pamela Anderson's TV series and how he continues to go crazy over Scarlett Johansson as his new film muse. Why, he made his newest film, "Scoop," just for the pleasure of working with Scarlett again! Lucky girl. When an actress backed out of "Match Point," Scarlett flew to London as a hasty replacement ... and Woody was smitten. Only on the set, said the comedy auteur, who is married to Soon-Yi and dotes on their two adopted daughters.

"I'm still hard of hearing this year as I was last year," Woody reminded the reporters. As in that first interview, the writer-director of such classics as "Annie Hall" and "Manhattan" asked the journalists to speak louder. "Scoop," a comedy about an American student journalist visiting London who happens to stumble upon the scoop of a lifetime, also features Hugh Jackman and Ian McShane, a newsman who can't pass up a scoop even if he is already dead.

In this film, you represent limbo as a ship that goes on a voyage that never stops. Do you believe in limbo?

I don't believe it (laughter). Originally, my idea was that a very dedicated journalist dies and goes to heaven. He finds out that heaven is very corrupt. He comes back to earth and tries to sell the story to a newspaper. That story has many problems and I couldn't write it properly no matter what I did. I couldn't get a full script out of it. So then I thought, what if the dedicated journalist found out about a crime that was committed and he doesn't want the crime to go unpunished? He comes back. This is pure fiction because my view of life as you know from previous interviews is much bleaker than that. I don't believe we are in a boat anyplace. I think nothing happens at all.

What about death? What's your perception of it?

I don't want to depress you all but I see it as a cessation of all sensations and the terminations of consciousness for eternity. You will just vanish, decompose or be cremated, whatever your choice is. That will be the end of it. The phenomenon known as (he gave the name of a reporter in attendance) will never ever exist again anywhere (laughter).

So you do not believe in reincarnation?

I don't believe in reincarnation because as I have said, death is total termination. I think the earth, universe, the whole cosmos will vanish and there will be nothing. Life is a totally meaningless, bleak and painful experience. The trick is to figure out how to live and how to make moral choices so you can sell yourself a bill of goods.

Have you made the right moral choices?

I try but I don't always. It is hard to make those moral choices. I can say that, in my lifetime, I have made decent choices. I am not a fascist or a criminal, and I try to come down on the side of liberal democracy. I have tried to be decent in my life but you can't be perfect. You make some screw-ups. Everybody does. It's tough because you have to make them with the knowledge that there is no reward for making them. So if I have not depressed you yet we can meet and chat later (laughter).

How would you like to be remembered as an ordinary mortal and as a filmmaker?

I am not a big legacy person for the reason that just I gave you (laughter). To me, when I die, I don't care what you guys do (laughter). You can take my films and dump them in the sewer. You can write that I was non-existent, the worst person in the world or the best person. It doesn't matter to me at all because all the people in the world standing over Shakespeare's grave and singing his praises just don't mean a thing. Once I die, if there is a couple of bucks to be made for my kids in my royalties, great. When you see these politicians and everyone says, but what about your legacy? Who cares? When I was younger, I started giving copies of my films to the Museum of Modern Art. I gave about 15 films to the museum and then I thought, what am I doing? Do I really care? And that was the end of it. I just want to be burned on Madison Avenue and 81st. Burn me, no parties, and no remembrances. Just let destiny rule and move on.

But you have phases of positiveness. You love basketball, your kids, you love doing movies.

They are distractions. I do a movie every single year to distract myself (laughter). Because then when I go home, I can work on, let's say, how Scarlett Johansson and Hugh Jackman meet each other in the movie. That takes three to four hours of thinking. But if I don't have that problem to solve then I am thinking, gee I am 70 years old, how long can I go on? That's what's gonna happen to me. If I don't have a distraction, one day I just won't wake up in the morning or I'll be walking on the street and fall dead. The kids that I went to school with are now dropping dead left and right around me. So what I need is distraction. I have sports. I practiced the clarinet like it was really important to practice. Or I think about getting the script, getting the money and casting Colin Farrell and Ewan McGregor in my next movie.

In this movie, did you consider writing your character not as a magician or did you think of having someone play your magician character?

In this case, I didn't. Usually I do but I had just done "Match Point" with Scarlett. We became very friendly and I thought, "My God, this girl is so funny." I wanted to do a movie with her where I could be funny and she could be funny, too. She is so gifted. So when I wrote the script, I wrote myself into it. I wanted to indulge myself and have the treat of playing with Scarlett. I never knew anything about Scarlett until she came into my last movie, "Match Point." Like everybody else on the set, I was overwhelmed by her.

You said you and Scarlett became very good friends. How does a person know that you consider him a good friend?

With Scarlett, we are very friendly on the set. I have never gone to lunch or dinner with her. We don't e-mail each other. We don't call each other (laughter). But we are very friendly with each other. The minute we meet on the set, we're full of jokes, talk and affection. We have a good time together. That was the only reason I did "Scoop." We wanted to do something together where I could show the world that she is amusing, that she is not just sexy and dramatic. Scarlett always tops me. Every time I say something funny, she says something funnier instantly. I have a great deal of respect for that. But you can see on the set that we are always insulting or teasing each other. I don't usually do that with cast members. I am usually very reserved. But not with her. I have a good time with her but it does not extend beyond the set. We don't go out socially.

Going back to Colin and Ewan, what is the film that you will be doing with them?

I don't have a title yet but it will be a serious film like "Match Point." It will also be set in England. Colin and Ewan are the main stars.

What do you like about Colin and Ewan?

I have never met Ewan. I only know his work. But I think it is wonderful. I met Colin for 60 seconds. He came in very briefly but I also know his work.

FIRST LOOK/ A4-2

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He romanced Davis, Hayworth & Crawfo

LOS ANGELES—VINCENT SHERMAN, WHO DIRECTED—AND romanced—Bette Davis, Rita Hayworth and Joan Crawford during his heyday as a leading Hollywood filmmaker in the 1940s and '50s, died last weekend of natural causes. He would have been 100 on July 16.

His death at the Motion Picture and Television Hospital was announced Monday by his son, Eric Sherman.

"Vince was in good condition until two months ago," said actress Francine York, his companion for the last nine years. "In January, he had appeared on a documentary about Humphrey Bogart, and he told a lot of good stories. He was the last of the gentlemen, a real Southern gentleman."

"He was a joy to work with," said Ann Rutherford, who appeared opposite Erroll Flynn in "The Adventures of Don Juan." "I marveled at how he was able to handle Errol. Vince was a quiet, relaxed director. There was a wonderful kindness about him. That's why he had so many lady friends."

YESTERDAY

Sherman, whose career was seriously damaged by Hollywood's communist "red scare," later became a successful director of such television series as "The Waltons," "Doctors Hospital," "Baretta," "Trapper John, M.D.," and "77 Sunset Strip."

'Woman's director'

He had begun as an actor, appearing on Broadway and in a handful of movies, among them 1933's "Counselor at Law," in which he had a small but memorable role as a young anarchist opposite John Barrymore. He also wrote several screenplays, including "Crime School," which starred Bogart and the Dead End Kids.

Because of his ability to evoke powerful performances from strong-willed female stars—he also directed Ida Lupino, Ann Sheridan and Patricia Neal—Sherman became known as a woman's director, a title he hated. He was quick to point out that he also directed Flynn in "The Adventures of Don Juan," Paul Newman in "The Young Philadelphians," Bogart in "All Through the Night," Richard Burton in "The Ice Palace" and Ronald Reagan in "The Hasty Heart."

ACTOR Fortunio Bonanova, left, looks through the viewfinder, assisted by Vincent Sherman, while filming "Adventures of Don Juan," 1948. AP

Sherman also gained a reputation for romancing many of his famous actresses, and he wrote about them in his 1996 autobiography, "Studio Affairs."

Though both were married at the time, he and Davis had an affair that began during the filming of 1943's "Old Acquaintance" and continued through "Mr. Skeffington," which was released the following year. His dalliance with
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Sherman's wife, I
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First look a
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From page A4-1

How come you met Colin for o

I don't like meeting people. I a
joys meeting actors and going to lu
an actor comes to me for a movie,
famous, I always say to them when they walk in the door, "I am not going to take much of your time. I know your work. I just wanted to see you live for a second so I didn't cast the picture from a DVD or something." So I say "Hello. Thank you. I have no more questions. I think you are wonderful." The actor is always very grateful because he doesn't want to sit there and be viewed and answer questions. The actor would say, "It was a pleasure meeting you, Mr. Allen." He goes and we hire him. That's exactly what I did with Colin Farrell. I met with him for two seconds. I didn't have to meet
from watching his DVDs but he w
him 20 minutes to come over and
he was out.

Going back to this movie; yo
lett's character snoop around homes to solve a crime. In real life, do you snoop through private rooms?

Oh, whenever possible (laughter). I love to snoop. It is illegal but (laughter)... There are stores that sell surveillance things. I bought a surveillance thing that looks like a clock so you couldn't tell that it was giving a video picture to me in my house. I put the clock in my parents' house because they were in their '90s and they had a woman taking care of them. I wanted to make sure that the woman was treating them nicely. I put it in but I put it in too high so you only saw everybody's heads just from here (demonstrated up to forehead). So you see the top of my mother's and father's heads only. I finally went back and lowered it so you can see the people. When I saw the way the situation was, I wanted to give the woman a bonus (laughter) because my parents were horrible and the woman was wonderful.

Tell us more about how you practice the clarinet.

I am not a fan of "Baywatch" intellectually (laughter). But there have been times when I sit home in the afternoon and practice my clarinet. I turn the sound off the television set but I leave the picture on because it is so boring to practice. So I am practicing the clarinet and on the TV are some of the shows like "Baywatch." I see these incredibly beautiful women and to that degree, it is very pleasant. I don't hear the silly stories but I do see the beautiful women while I play the clarinet so that is fun.

(E-mail the columnist. at rvnepales_5585@yahoocom.)

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3 SCARY MOVIE 4 12:05, 2:15, 4:25, 6:35, 8:45, 10:55 R-13
4 CARS 11:50, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30 GP

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3 CARS 12:50, 5:25, 10:00 MTRCB GP
GARFIELD 2 3:30, 8:05 MTRCB GP
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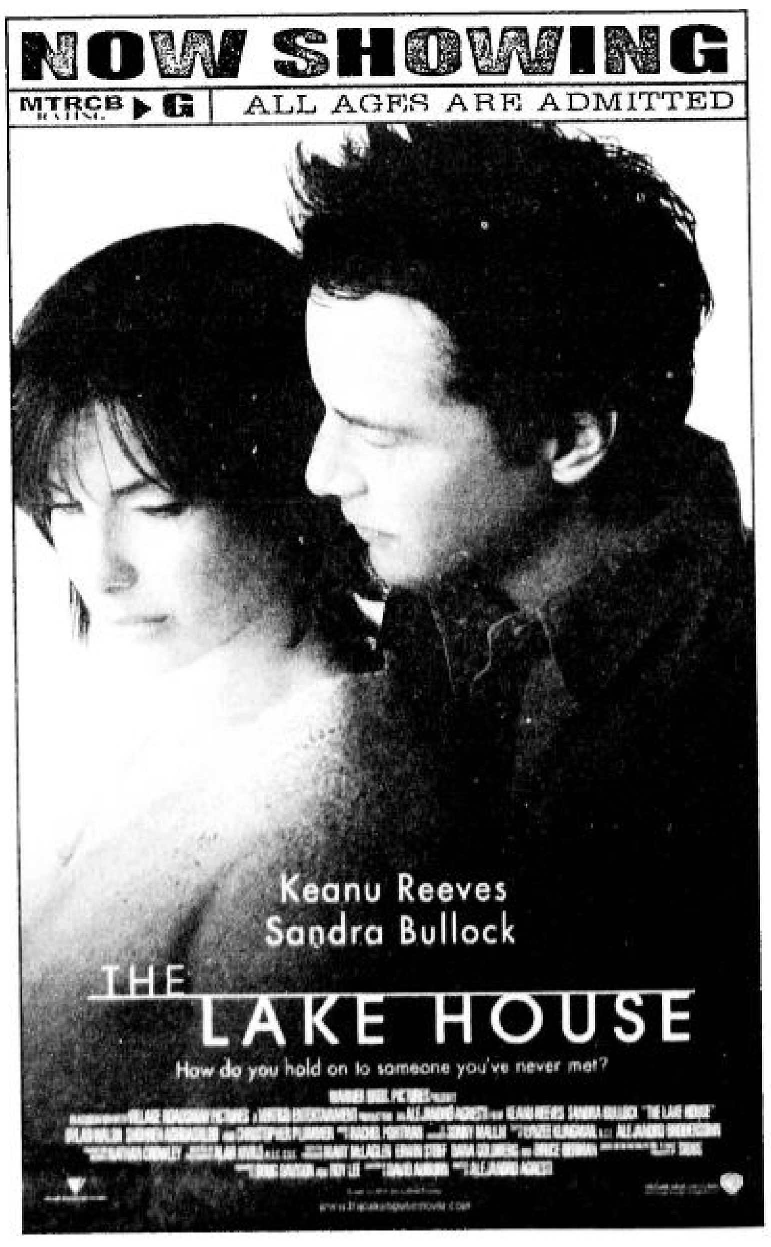
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THE LAKE HOUSE PG13 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:50, 10:00	THE NUN R13 1:25, 3:30, 5:35, 7:40, 9:45	THE FAST AND THE FURIOUS: TOKYO DRIFT PG13 12:50, 3:10, 5:30, 7:50, 10:10

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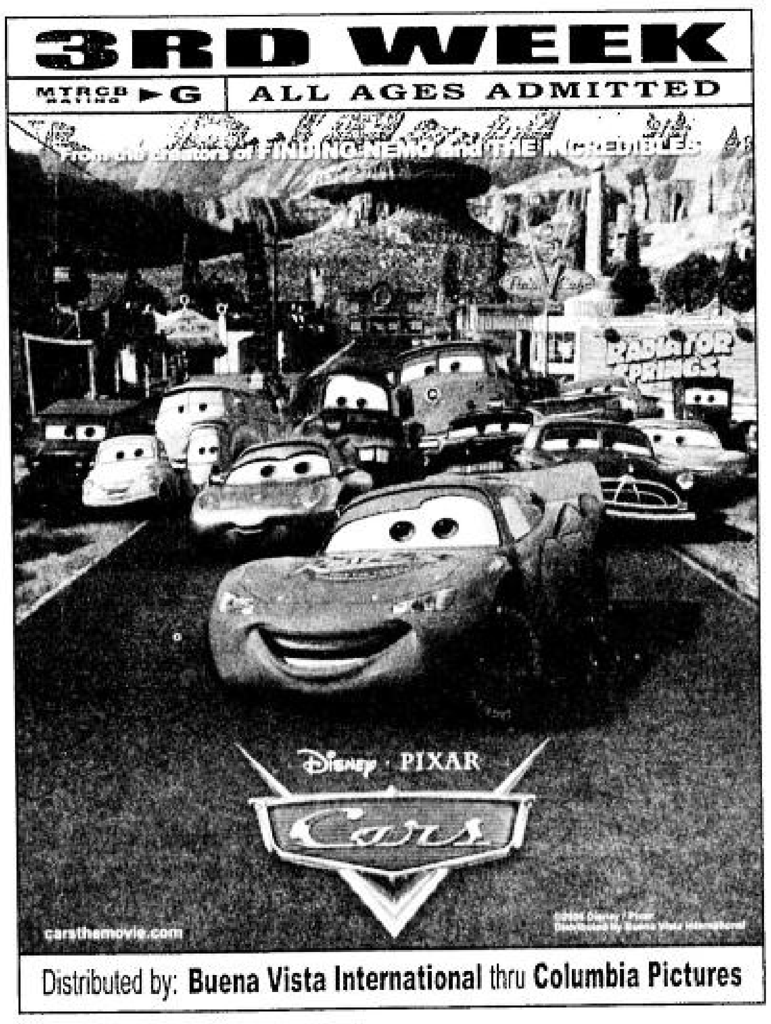
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his schoolmates.

RITA Hayworth and Sherman on the set of "Affair In Trinidad," 1952. AP

Vincent Sherman, 'quiet and relaxed' H'wood director, dies at 99

After graduating from Oglethorpe University, he sought an acting career in New York, joining the left-wing Group Theater. Since ethnic names for actors were unfashionable, he changed his to Vincent Sherman. Squarely built with black hair and a ruggedly handsome face, he quickly began appearing on Broadway.

In the late 1940s, Warner Bros. hired Sherman under an acting-writing-directing contract, and he was assigned to the studio's B-picture unit, adapting old movies into remakes.

He broke out as a director in 1942 with a gripping melodrama "The Hard Way."

Although he would go on to direct many important projects, he never rose to the level that would afford him consideration for an Academy Award.

"Of the 30 pictures that I made, I really liked only 10 or 12 of them," he said in 1997. "The rest were what we called bread-and-butter pictures."

Besides Eric, Sherman is survived by his daughter, Hedwin Naimark, four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. *Bob Thomas, AP*

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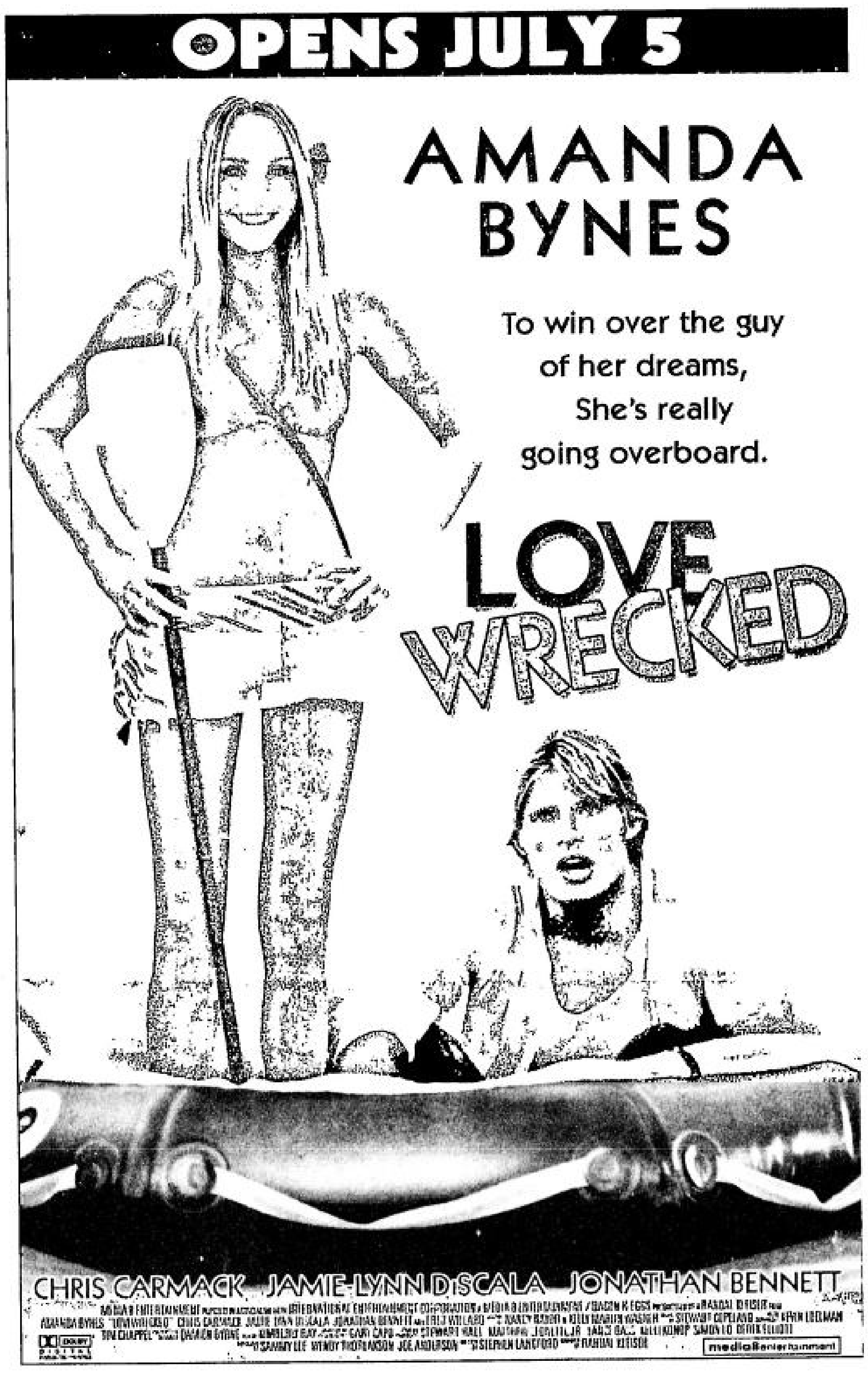

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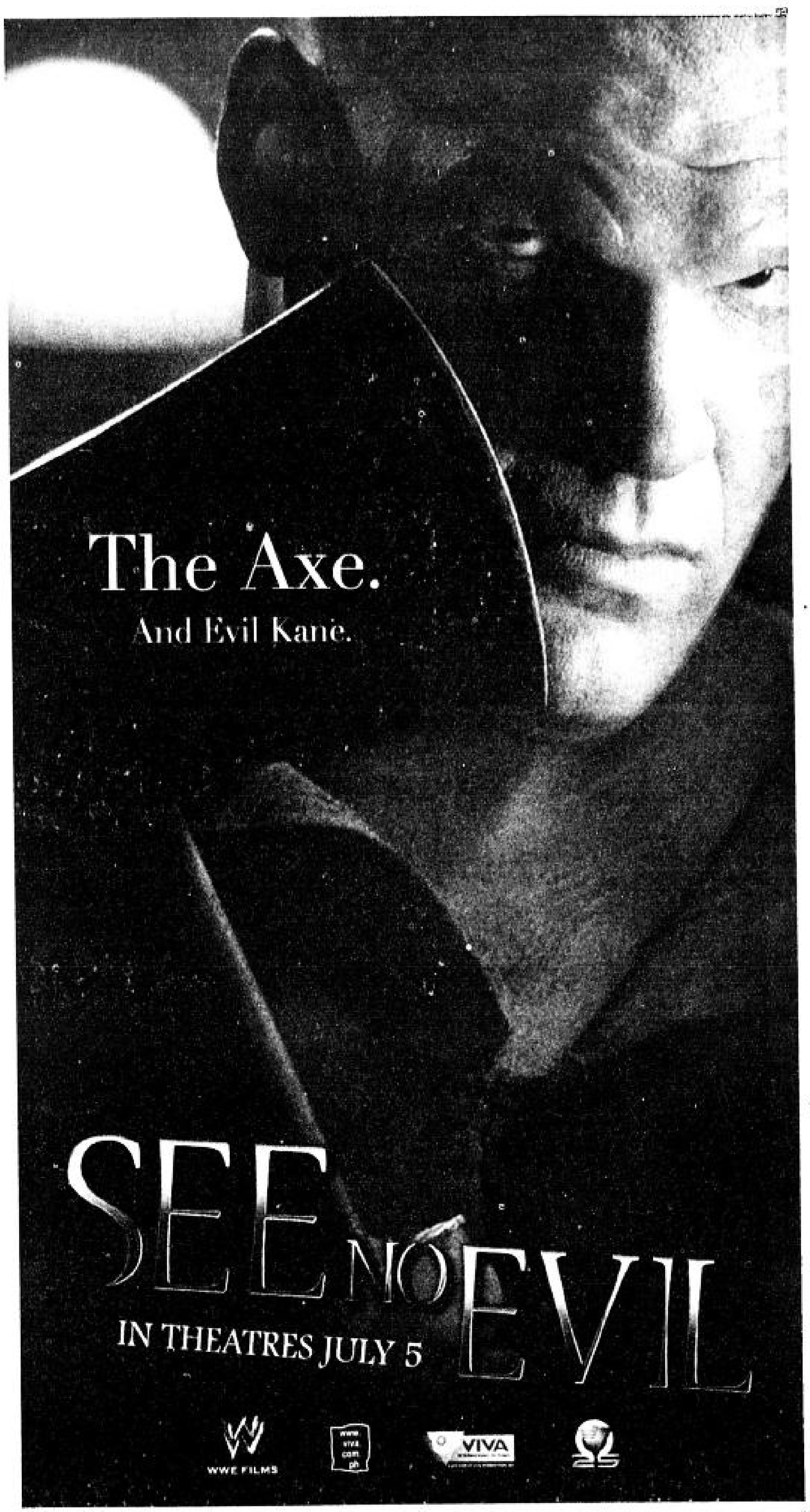

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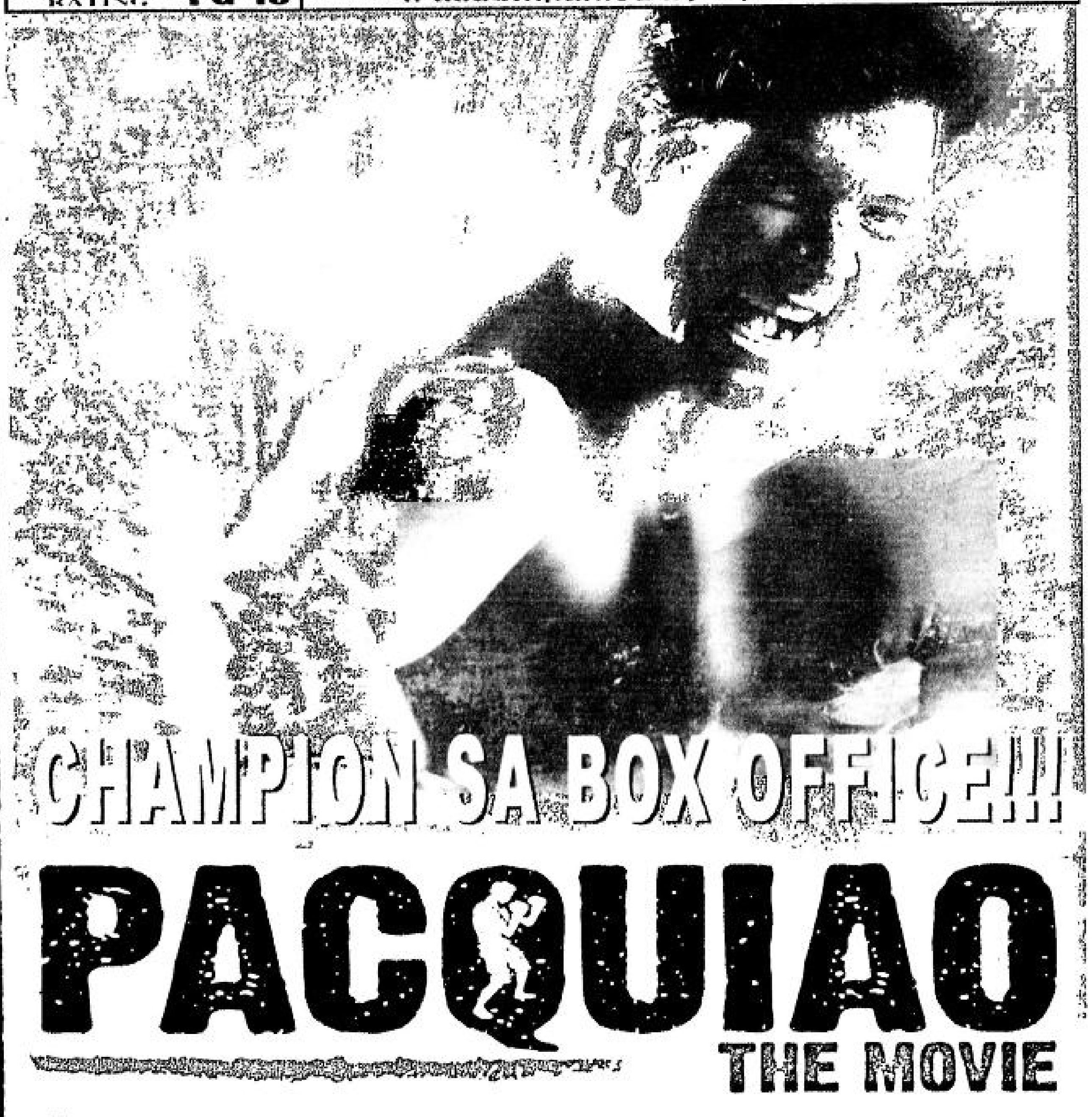

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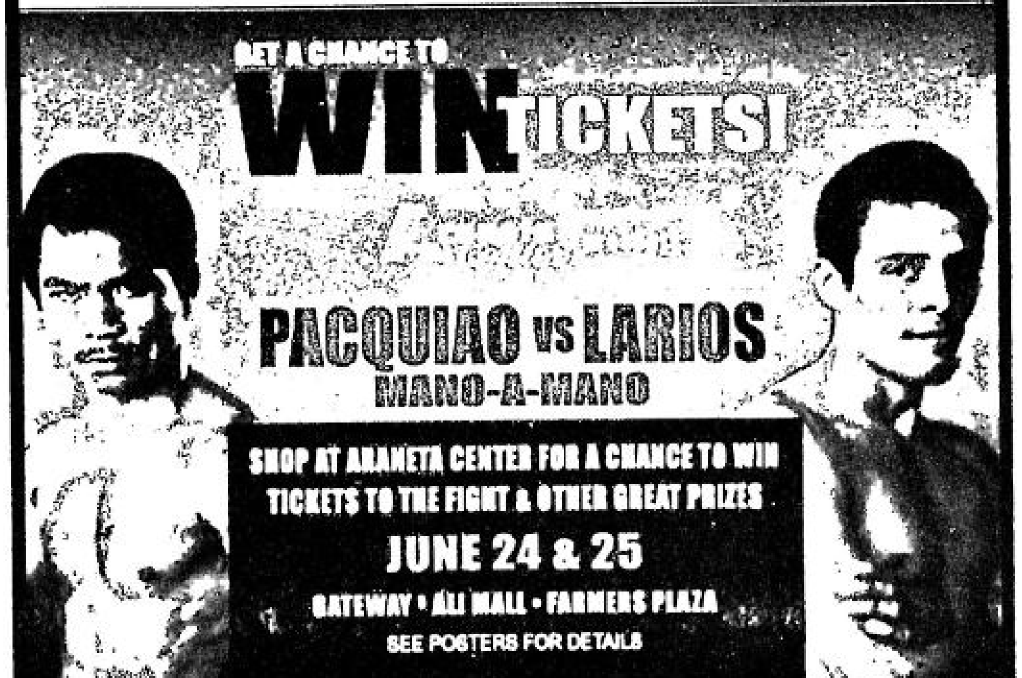

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GARFIELD
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KAPAG TUMIBOK ANG PUSO
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OMEN 666
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CARS
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X-MEN 3
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THE FAST & THE FURIOUS 3
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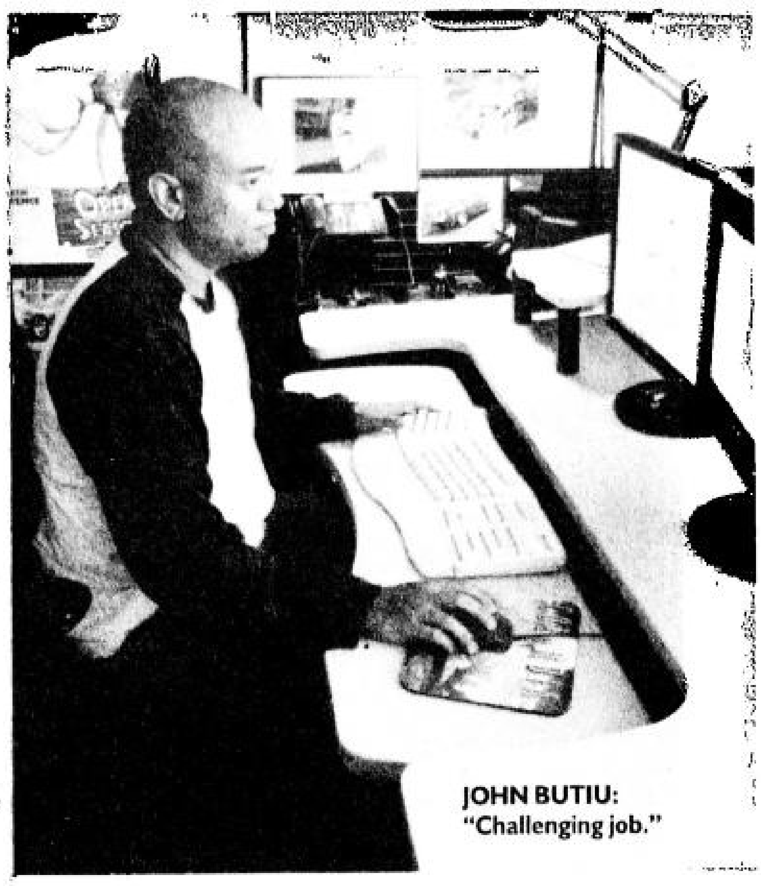
Pinoy artist in H'wood animated film 'Open Season'



JOHN BUTIU: "Challenging job."

By Janet Susan R. Nepales
Contributor

LOS ANGELES—FILIPINO-AMERICAN artist John Butiu is excited about his work in "Open Season," the animated movie where Ashton Kutcher does voice-acting for the one-horned mule deer Elliot.

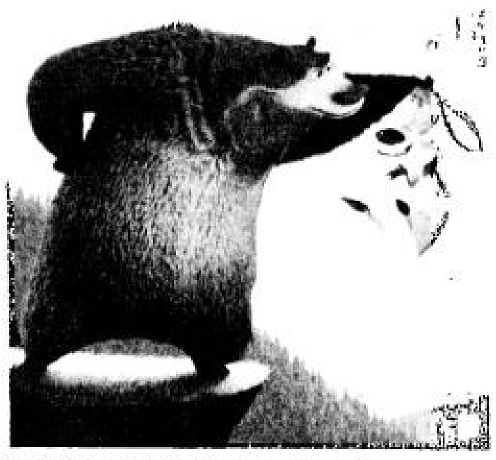
"I briefly worked on 'Open Season' as a senior modeler working on various props and environment sets," Butiu told Inquirer Entertainment in an exclusive interview. "Some of these are Boog's (the 900-pound bear voiced by Martin Lawrence) backpack, hunter rifles, miscellaneous appliances and props, and the characters' homes. After only a few weeks on 'Open Season,' I was immediately given my next movie assignment, 'Surf's Up,' which is scheduled for release in the summer of 2007."

Asked what challenges he encountered while working on the CG-animated Sony Pictures movie, Butiu said it was getting the exact look of the character and props to match the artists' designs.

"We would sit side by side with the artist/designer as I worked interactively with the artist next to me," he said. "[But] I also had some creative freedom in designing some of the sets and props."

Two other Pinoys

Directed by Roger Allers ("The Lion King") and Jill Culton ("Monsters, Inc.," "Toy Story 2"), with co-director Anthony Stacchi ("Antz"), the movie had two other Filipino-Americans in the production staff.



BOOGS and Elliott, main characters

Patrick Ramos was associate production manager of the animation department and Kevin Noel was production office coordinator.

Ramos was born in Manila but migrated to the US with his parents (Ramon and Reylindha) when he was two. He studied art and graphic design at the Art Institute of Seattle. "I enjoy my job here at Sony supervising 60 animators and working with directors, seeing things develop and grow from scratch," he said.

Noel was born in California and raised there by his parents Teresita and Clyde. Married to Natalie Kimberlind, who is half-Filipino, half-Hawaiian, Noel graduated from the San Francisco State University where he studied film production.

Paquiao fan

"The most challenging part of my job is being a jack-of-all-trades. Since I work with everybody from producers to directors to animators, they all come to me with questions. If I do not know the answer, I make sure I find someone who does. Our department is new, so we are all like guinea pigs and that is the most exciting thing," he pointed out.

Both Pinoys are excited to be a part of this first CGI feature film of SPA and are looking forward to being a part of a Filipino-inspired movie in the future.

"I see myself as producing a Manny Pacquiao movie or documentary. He is my idol," Noel confessed.

Based on the humor of cartoonist Steve Moore ("In the Bleachers"), "Open Season" is about animals coming together to survive in the wilderness and protect themselves from hunters and domestication.

The movie is about a 900-pound bear named Boog who is adopted and domesticated by a park ranger (Debra Messing). Boog's life changes when he meets the one-horned mule deer Elliot (Ashton Kutcher) who tempts him to go out into the wilderness. Unfortunately, when they escape the comfort of Boog's adopted home, it is only three days before the start of the open or hunting season—and the arrival of the bully paranoid über-hunter Shaw (Gary Sinise).

First time

Sandra Rabins and Penney Finkelman Cox, executive vice presidents of Sony Pictures Animation (SPA), are responsible for the development and production of all CG-animated films for Sony Pictures Entertainment. The two executives have recruited an impressive team of directors to work on the company's inaugural film.

Cox said it was the first time for Kutcher, Sinise, Messing and Lawrence do voice acting for animation.

"We were not sure that Ashton would say yes and so we were excited when he did," Cox said. "He came in, read the script and then said, 'Yeah, I could do this.' He has been a pleasure to work with and he is so funny and active. Animators like active voices and lots of emotion because they get inspiration from them. These are busy actors so we give them schedules that work for them—two or three hours a day. We are flexible. There are no sets. They just come in—even in their pajamas."

At present, Sony has 45 to 60 animators, with at least 25 of them strictly working on the film, from hand drawn to digital.

To inspire the animators, Sony bosses brought them to the wilderness, up to Northern California's redwoods.

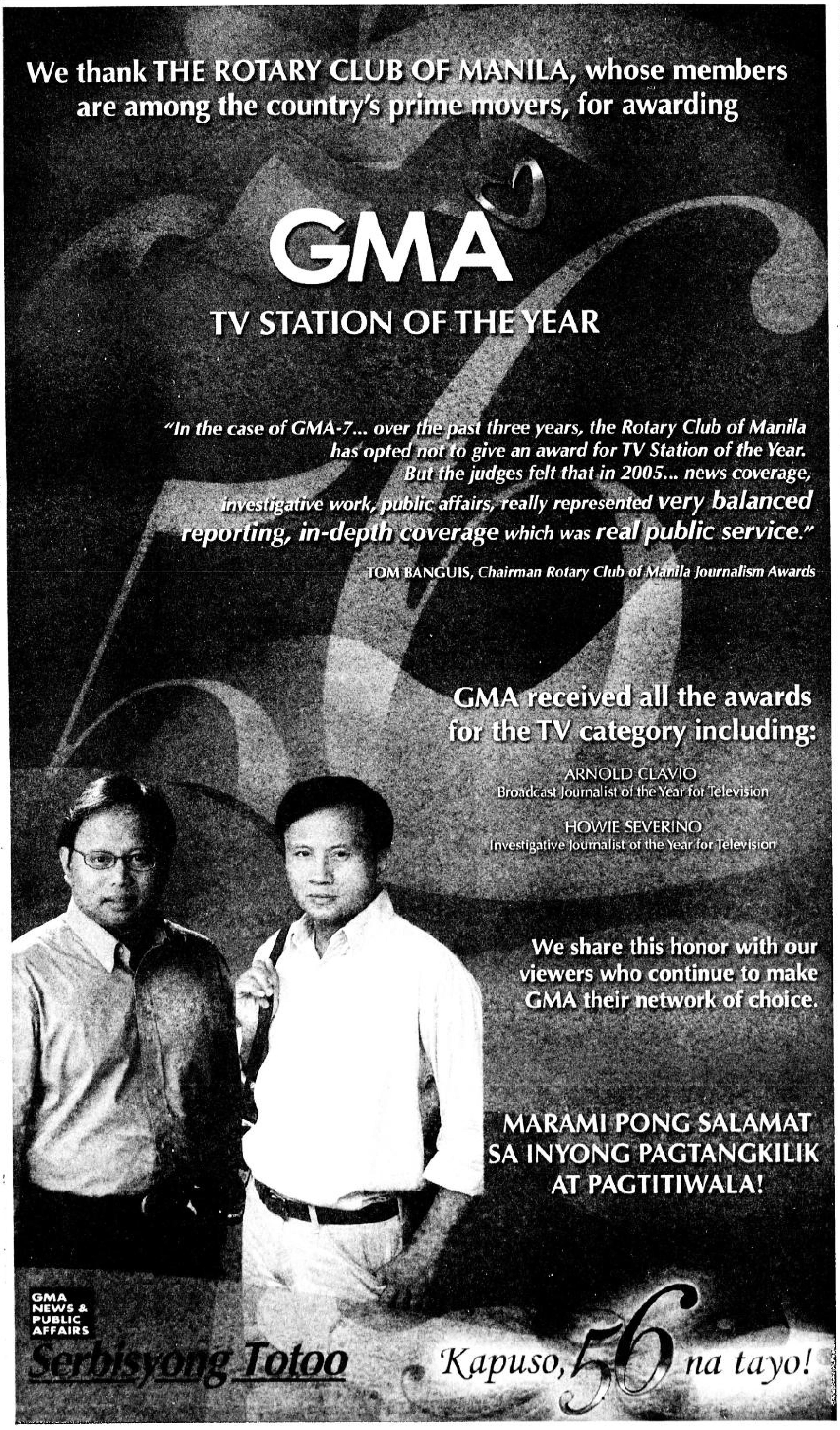
No to pirates

Yair Landau, vice chairman of Sony Pictures Entertainment and president of Sony Pictures Digital, said that to avoid piracy, the movie will be released much closer to the US release date.

"We will also try to encourage people to go out to the theater and watch it with a group and have fun instead of watching a poorly done pirated copy by yourself," Landau added. "We should all battle this piracy problem because we will not be able to make films if the rate of piracy continues. We will do all that we can to eliminate it. It is indeed scary that it has already become worldwide."

Landau formed Sony Pictures Digital in 1999, bringing together all the digital artists and software engineers from Sony Pictures Imageworks, Sony Online Entertainment and Columbia Tristar Interactive (now sonypictures.com) into one division. He said animated films usually do well in the box-office. Last year, he noted, three such features made a combined $800 million.

"We want people to laugh, love and care," Cox said. "Humor always comes out of conflict, from two disparate characters with different goals and different needs and that is all that we do in our daily lives. We solve conflicts to go into a better place in our lives."



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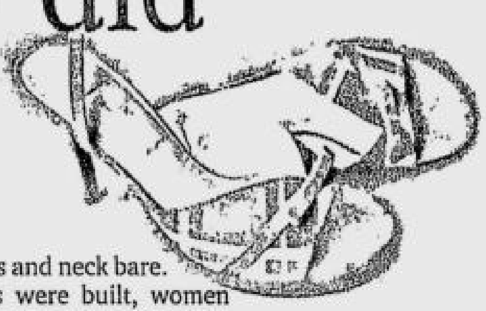
HABLON for men...

...and women of course

Look, *lola*, see what they did to the patadyong



By Margie Quimpo-Espino

UP UNTIL THE 70s, WOMEN IN THE RURAL areas used a *patadyong* to take a bath in or to cover themselves with while doing the laundry in the river. The patadyong, made of *hablon* (cloth made of cotton blends in plain or plaid patterns) is a tubular square cloth that you sort of 'shoot' yourself into and then tie by the chest to prevent from falling.

It leaves the shoulders and neck bare.

When water systems were built, women stopped doing their laundry and taking their baths by the river.

LOOK/B2

Move over Jim Thompson, here comes Palmos

JIM THOMPSON IS A BRAND OF THAI silk fabric, clothing and lifestyle accessories. It was set up by an American soldier who settled in Thailand in 1951. Today it has about $50 million in sales a year.

It started as a fabric and clothing store and has since created a whole lifestyle range using Thai silk.

Nono Palmos, a local fashion designer who grew up in Miag-ao in Iloilo, a weaving center, is attempting to do this with a variety of local materials which he himself helps formulate. But having been successful in tapping the foreign market for his clothes, Nono is also going to the international market first with his abaca placemats, Roman shades, silk curtains, table runners. Below are some of the accessories Nono has created:

LIFESTYLE accesories of local materials

AyalaLand Premier

I didn't get to keep the starfish I didn't keep the sea cucumber either.

But I'm keeping the badge the marine ranger gave me!

Welcome to Anvaya Cove Beach & Nature Club – only 20 minutes away from the Subic Bay Freeport. Here, friendly Marine Rangers introduce kids (and adults too) to the most fascinating creatures in their seaside habitat.

Anvaya Cove is a seaside leisure community developed by Ayala Land Premier in Morong, Bataan. Stake your claim to paradise by owning a membership share. Build your vacation home amidst stunning sea views or verdant forests. Or perhaps invest in one of Anvaya's luxury villas with its own private pool.

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A taste of Ilocos in Manila

Couple builds business on empanada discovery from the north

By Emmaruth Gabriel
Contributor

JUST AS BO'S COFFEE, Bacolod Chicken Inasal and Vigan's longonissa successfully transplanted their local delicacies into mainstream Manila, another provincial specialty, Ilocos *empanada*, from Batac, Ilocos Norte is joining the fray.

Its orange crust will have you as its mark.

Every sprinkle of *sukang* Iloko that accompanies every bite into an Ilocos empanada reveals treasures inside—"a delicious blend of Ilocos *longanisa*, grated green papaya, monggo and egg—giving you a whole new reason not to have your empanada any other way.

For almost a decade now, a little store in Katipunan has been giving its loyal customers "honest-to-goodness Ilocos empanada" reminiscent of the provincial delicacy that has become a staple snack in Laoag.

Hooked on the first bite

Nine years ago, Carol Halili was just another customer tasting her first bite of this phenomenal treat. She had her first encounter with the Ilocos empanada in Laoag, where a good friend invited her and husband Ding for a vacation.

"She insisted that we try this delicious provincial snack that was only served at night, Laoag's version of the empanada. What amazed us was how it was made; there were different stalls serving the same delicacy and being cooked in full view of the customers at the plaza.

Carol recounts how she saw cooks stuffing the orange dough with monggo, *longganisang hubad*, green papaya and raw egg as topping, the mighty pie is then deep fried until crispy.

After our first bite, my husband and I were instantly hooked, relates Carol.

Bringing home the bacon

Seeing how she loved the delicacy, her husband suggested why not bring the snack to Manila? Months after tasting her first Ilocos empanada, Carol was all geared up, with P100,000 and a dream to open a business with a product she intimately enjoys.

The first challenge was to capture the true taste of the Ilocos empanada. Through her then partner, Carol was able to find someone from the province who could teach them how. She recalls, "she was hesitant to teach us at first, because it was a secret recipe in the province. Through persistent wooing, she eventually taught us how to make the empanada, the secret ingredients and the manner it is cooked. The main problem she first encountered in trying out the recipe was the cook's penchant for adding seasoning to taste.

Consistency is key

Carol standardized the process in order to make her version of the Ilocos empanada saleable in Manila. Besides coming up with exact measurements for the ingredients to make the taste consistent, she also made sure not to use MSG in her product for health-conscious eaters.

CAROL and Ding Halili

Aside from our system, what also sets us apart from other Ilocos empanada stores is our staff. I trained all of them so they could perfect the art of cooking our empanadas. I also make sure to change the oil on a regular basis so every empanada retains its flavor, she explains.

What makes our Ilocos empanada stand out is its consistent taste, says owner Carol Halili. We've come up with our own version of the Ilocos empanada that you can enjoy for its rich flavor while properly adhering to a clean process you would want your empanada to be cooked in.

The crust "unlike the thick one the original Ilocos empanada has " has a thin dough that gives its crispy crunchy taste. On top of that, Ilocos Empanada Corner's staff wear gloves as they mix the ingredients, make the dough and cook the empanada, so customers are assured that their empanadas are made fresh.

Carol's empanadas are measured for consistency. "Being in the business for nine years has taught me to know my clients' needs. Unlike the usual way it is made, my system allows us to make empanadas the non-messy way for our health-conscious clients. This system also allows us to create about a dozen in just five minutes, so they don't have to wait, unlike in the province where they make it *mano-mano*, she explains.

Healthy option

Another edge of Ilocos Empanada Corner, Carol shares, is variety. "I'm the only one who introduced chicken empanadas so my clients can have a choice aside from the usual pork. I also have all veggies empanadas to satisfy the cravings of vegetarians."

No wonder she has clients who even come all the way from Parañaque and Alabang just to experience her delicious empanadas. Besides empanadas, they can also pick from other Ilocos products available for take home: *bagnet*, Ilocos longanisa, sukang Iloko, and even frozen empanadas for those who want to enjoy them at home. She has also developed a recipe for frozen lumpiang ubod, another favorite among her customers.

Replicating her success

Carol says she is set to open another outlet at the SM Fairview terminal. The invitation for them to open at a Shoemart property was the break they were waiting for. It took a while, but they got the call and set-up shop posthaste. They soon hope to sell the outlet to future franchisees. "Through the years, we were able to establish a reputable name and system, which I believe is very attractive for franchising, adds Carol."

THE ORIGINAL ILOCOS empanada is orange dough with monggo, longgonisang hubad, green papaya and raw egg as topping, fried until crispy.

US culinary school cooking in Makati

THE FIRST AMERICAN CULINARY school in the Philippines recently opened in Makati City with 30 students.

The school—the American Hospitality Academy-Philippines—is the first culinary education facility opened by the American Hospitality Academy (AHA), an organization that has been providing training for students from all over the world in well-known hotel and resorts in the US for the past 20 years. It is based in Hilton Head Island in South Carolina.

AHA was established in 1986 by Cindi Reiman, a native of Chicago, and has partnered with several known hotel chains like the Carlton Ritz, Hyatt Marriot and Hilton in providing the training to hospitality students.

Reiman sees the hospitality industry as a positive forum for international understanding as it breaks down social barriers through its hosting of different cultures in an environment that promotes peace and friendships.

AHA's programs are exchange visitor programs recognized by the US State Department.

Asked why the AHA is opening its very first culinary school here in the Philippines instead of the United States or another Asian country, Reiman replied: "Filipinos love to cook and appreciate good food. Filipinos are known to be a friendly and hospitable race, perfect for the hospitality industry. My positive experience with hard-working Filipinos who took up AHA's internship program reinforced my decision to put up our very first school in this country."

The culinary school business in this country has been bullish with some 20 culinary schools now offering professional culinary courses.

AHA-Philippines offers a Tesda-accredited 6-month Diploma in Culinary Arts program and a 9-month Diploma in Culinary Art and Entrepreneurship program that started this month. TESDA stands for Technical Education and Skills Development Authority, the government skills training overseer.

The programs are open to high school and college graduates. The six-months culinary arts program includes courses in food safety and sanitation, kitchen math, product identification, knife skills, butchery and fish mongerie.

Four months is devoted to hands-on training in classrooms and the last two to internship training in a local hotel or restaurant.

"Unlike other culinary schools, where five or more students are assigned to a cooking station, we will take care that the AHA student will do actual hands-on everyday," says Gene Cordova, AHA-Philippines president and managing partner."

After the six-months culinary arts program, trainees may opt to continue to the nine-month culinary arts and entrepreneurship program.

Tucked in the six or nine-month program is a two-month internship program which will require students to train as apprentices in a local hotel after which they will have the option to do a six months to one year internship program in the US.

For details about the programs and the fees involved, please call 6700 -8510 or visit www.ahaphil.com.

CHEF Gene Corduva of AHA and Chef William "Bill" N. Reynolds, the provost of the Washburne Culinary Institute (WCI) in Chicago.

Ex-jeweller and doctor concoct Filipino resto with a Greek twist

ANNE LIMSON-QUINIO, 32, was a jeweller for 12 years, and had been going to the nation's top cooking schools since age 15. Her mother, who she says is a very good cook, and her father, who she says loves good food, were her early culinary inspirations.

Husband, Raymond, 39, a doctor turned businessman, is into the ice-cream business. He owns the Fruits in Ice Cream (FIC) scooping stations at the Fort Strip, Market-Market & Makati Golf Club scooping stations.

Anne and Raymond decided to create a restaurant that will uplift the Filipino Cuisine. The result was Filos Restaurant at the Fort Strip. The name is from the Greek "philos" which means "beloved."

The menu was designed by Chef Ed Quimson in collaboration with Anne and her family.

Filos' best sellers include are Gambas, Adobo Sofrito Springroll, Crab Shrimp and Mango Salad, Bangus belly stuffed with pinakbet and from their oven baked dishes are Ana Marie Tinola Rice, Baked Garlic Chicken, Adobong Pusit Rice which requires an hour in advance to order.

How do Anne and Raymond see Filos in the future?

Their reply: "More Filos branches—even abroad!"

To celebrate its first birthday, Filos will give a 10 percent privilege cards to some of its guests and to frequent diners. For questions, call 818-0600.

ANNE and Raymond Quinio

Look, lola . . .

From page B1

MOSQUITO net for the beach, anyone?

The demand for the patadyong declined.

In Miag-ao in Iloilo where there used to be a strong hablon weaving industry, there numbered just a handful of old weavers by the early 90s, according to fashion designer Nono Palmos. Nono says that centuries ago, Panay, especially Miag-ao, was a big supplier of hablon for the country.

When the Spaniards came to the Philippines over 300 years ago, the barangay folks were already using the hablon. The Spanish later created the *baro't saya* with this, using the colorful plaid cloth as the skirt or saya and even exporting the cloth to Europe.

Come the modern times and nobody wants to use the patadyong. But Nono hopes this will change.

He says Miagao Mayor Gerardo Flores talked to him a few years ago to ask to help revive the hablon (which means woven) industry.

Flores' appeal to Palmos was to give the hablon a modern twist. He designed a line of modern wear using the hablon and showcased this in a fashion show in Miagao.

Palmos says he used local women as models but brought in a production crew from Manila.

This brought renewed interest in weaving and Nono says the Miagao women wanted to learn the old craft again. Then Sen. Loren Legarda helped get a grant from the British Embassy to construct a building for the weavers and provide other assistance.

Today, Nono says there are about 300 weavers in Miag-ao.

Palmos says the local government had uniforms made for its employees using the woven material.

Palmos, whose clientele include members of the diplomatic corps and expatriates, started incorporating hablon and other local materials into his clothes. Recently he had a private show for the lady members of the Australian and New Zealand Association.

Palmos created summer and beach wear using the hablon.

And the mosquito net.

Getting inspiration from the fact that the mosquito net is airy, light and sufficient to protect, Palmos created wraps and beach wear cover for this almost forgotten material now only used in the provinces.

Palmos has also been developing new kinds of cloth from local materials such as piña and silk.

FROM BODY wrap to beach wear

FASHION designer Nono Palmos

Economics of tuba-tuba

D1 Oils Phils., Inc. operations manager Richard Torres (left) and D1 Oils SEA head agronomist Ab Van Peer.

Text & photos by Aquiles Z. Zonio
PDI Mindanao Bureau

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—TOP officials of D1 Oils Philippines, Inc. have assured tuba-tuba growers here not only of technical support but also a ready market for their produce.

This is welcome news to locals like Jojo Tubao who runs a jatropha curcas nursery and leads the campaign to propagate jatropha through the Socsksargen Unifide Workers Multi-Purpose Cooperative (SUW-MPC).

The propagation of jatropha, locally known as tuba-tuba, is one of the pet projects of the cooperative members. They recently signed a seed supply agreement with D1 Oils, under which the UK-based company committed to buy all the tuba-tuba seeds produced by SUW-MPC.

D1 Oils PLC is primarily engaged in growing, refining and distributing bio-diesel, of which tuba-tuba is a potential source.

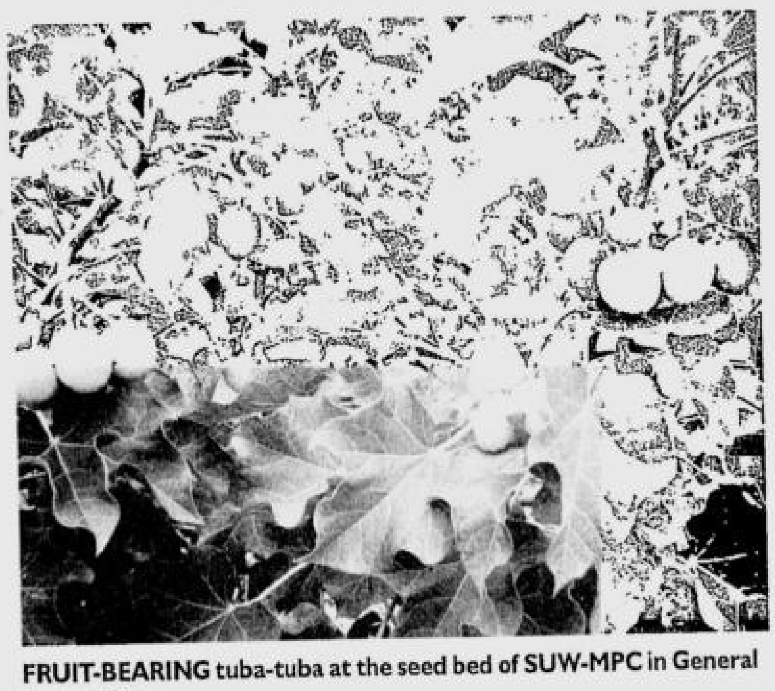
Tubao said growing tuba-tuba is ideal for small farmers because the plant is easy to propagate and grows almost anywhere.

Aside from being a source of bio-diesel, tuba-tuba oil is also used in making soaps, lubricants and candles. Its protein content may be used as raw material for plastic and synthetic fiber.

It is also said to have high medicinal value as its latex contains jatrophine, an alkaloid used in medicines.

Data shows that a hectare of land can be planted to 2,500 to 4,500 tuba-tuba seedlings, and these can produce two to six tons of oil a year.

It takes about five years for the tuba-tuba to mature, after which the farmers should earn at least P70,000 a year from the sale of the oil, according to SUW-MPC estimates.



FRUIT-BEARING tuba-tuba at the seed bed of SUW-MPC in General Santos City.

ORGANIC RICE FARMING

Good for farmers' pockets, friendly to the environment

By Anselmo Roque
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

SCIENCE CITY OF Muñoz—Joselito Tambalo, a farmer of Barangay Mangandingay here, attests that organic rice farming has provided ample benefits for him and the environment.

Being a member of a cooperative that supports sustainable rice production and marketing prompted him to go into this kind of farming. His production expenses dropped resulting in bigger profits and he is not exposed to health hazards brought by chemicals used in conventional farming. He is also assured of the financing and marketing of his produce.

Tambalo's good fortune in rice farming is shared by 131 farmers in Nueva Ecija. Their number is growing as their Kooperatibang Likas ng Nueva Ecija (Kool-NE) is now training more members.

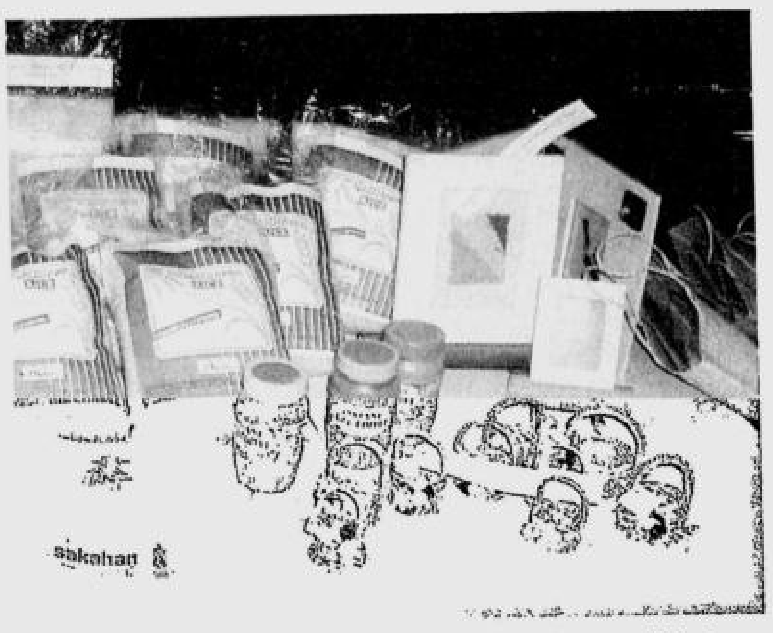
Tambalo, 42, says he and his colleagues are now using organic fertilizers, applying herbal spraying and combatting the "golden kuhol" (snail), considered pests in most farms, through indigenous means.

The group uses about 70 sacks of chicken manure or compost for a hectare of rice farm.

For control of pests and diseases, fermented leaves and twigs of "kakawate" and neem trees and "makabuhay" plants are sprayed on rice plants.

Some farmers found it convenient and effective, too, to just allow the "kakawate" leaves to drift to their farm when they irrigate, he says.

Pepper, like "siling-labuyo" or "siling-palay," is sometimes used but with caution as the farmer may suffer body discomforts, especially in the eyes, if affected.



SOME of the packaged organic rice and developed commodities from rice and rice wastes produced by Nueva Ecija's organic rice farmers who belong to a cooperative engaged in sustainable agriculture.
ANSELMO ROQUE

For control of the weeds, farmers make certain that land preparation is thorough. Good water management is practiced—aside from good crop establishment, it also helps in controlling the growth of weeds.

For "golden kuhol" control, a small canal near dikes is built where mollusks are destroyed as the ricefield is drained.

In substituting chicken manure for chemical fertilizer, a farmer uses a number formula—at least three bags of chicken manure are substituted for a bag of chemical fertilizer.

The average yield is 110 cavans per hectare. At P600 a cavan, the gross is P66,000. The net return is a little over P20,000 after deducting cost of production, land rental, irrigation fee, labor, and threshing.

Tambalo and his colleagues use the inbred rice varieties, instead of the hybrid varieties because the latter are too dependent on chemicals.

Sustainable agriculture

Tambalo was recruited as local community organizer of the Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement (PRRM) and has since become a leader of the recruited members.

He joined the Kalipunan ng mga Magsasaka para sa Likas-Kayang Sakahan sa Nueva Ecija (Kalikasan-NE), a group advocating for sustainable agriculture, among other things. The group has 19 organizations as members.

In 2002, Kalikasan-NE and the PRRM, in a joint venture, formed Kool-NE to support sustainable rice production and marketing.

"It is now run as corporative," Shubert Ciencia, PRRM branch manager in Nueva Ecija, says.

He says Kool-NE is a multipurpose-cooperative that is run like a corporation. A business team takes charge of the financing and marketing aspects of the cooperative.

Ciencia says the PRRM and Kalikasan-NE provide technical assistance to cooperative members on how to improve their productivity.

Among the practices being advanced is value-adding to their rice produce, conversion of farm wastes like hay, straw, and rice hull into commercial products, and engaging in diversified and integrated farming technology.

"Our concept is that the members of the cooperative can have a net income of from P158,000 to P200,000 in a hectare from organic rice farming," he says.

Arden Concepcion, general manager of the cooperative, says Kool-NE provides crop production loans to members at 3.5 percent interest rate per month. (Farmers get production loans elsewhere at an average interest rate of 10 percent.)

The cooperative also provides micro-financing of up to P15,000 to non-member entrepreneurs and employees at 4 percent a month.

He says the cooperative buys the members' organic rice produce at 30 to 50 centavos per kilo more than what rice mill owners offer.

The rice is then processed and marketed by the cooperative to Metro Manila at P1,250 per sack of 50 kilos each.

Concepcion says the cooperative now sells an average of 300 cavans of organic rice every month.

MAP starts 'Quest for Innovative Solutions' series

THE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION OF THE Philippines (MAP) is holding a series of fora organized by the MAP Management Development Committee through Dr. Nick Poblador on "The Quest for Innovative Solutions."

The series will be held every Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., on July 13, September 14, and November 9.

The series will address several management concerns, such as How to hurdle the high intensity interconnectedness; How to sustain competitive advantages gained from traditional approaches in the surge environment; and Identifying innovative approaches to management.

Speakers include Esther C. Tan, chair of Sun Life of Canada (Philippines) Inc.; Gregorio S. Navarro, managing partner and COO of Punongbayan and Araullo; Alfredo I. Ayala, chair, eTelecare Global Solutions on the Business Process Outsourcing with moderator Dean Philip E. Juico of the Graduate School of Business of De La Salle University Professional Schools, Inc.; Carlos C. Ejercito, president and CEO, United Laboratories Group of Companies on Health Care.

For inquiries call (632) 751-1152 or e-mail mapsec@globenet.com.ph. There are varying registration fees for MAP members and their guests and other registrants.

Soap-making talk set

LEARN THE TECHNICAL KNOW-HOW on how to make different soap and mix your own soap at home and earn extra cash.

The Golden Treasure Skills Development Program will again conduct a one-day seminar on soap-making to be held at the UPAA Alumni Center, Magsaysay Avenue, Ylanan St., University of the Philippines Diliman, Quezon City. on July 1, Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Topics to be discussed are sourcing of materials, costing. There will be a hands-on experience on how to make liquid dishwashing soap, liquid hand soap, liquid all purpose soap, bar detergent soap, herbal bath soap, powder soap, car shampoo, bonus courses are liquid bleach, fabric softener, tile and bowl cleaner. Participants will receive certificate of training right after the seminar. All the materials will be provided. For questions, call 952-40-28, 952-29-34, 951-29-66, 436-78-26 and 913-65-51.

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Minimum Bid Price 239,000.00

KIDAPAWAN
LOT 3 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 750 sqm.
Lots 3 & 4, Block 2 Pascual Subd. Singao
Minimum Bid Price 300,000.00

LOT 4 - LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 80 sqm. F.A. 80 sqm.
Lot 2953-A-2 #150 Quezon Blvd
Minimum Bid Price 300,000.00

LOT 5 - LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 148 sqm. F.A. 109 sqm.
Lot 10-A-14-B Lumogdang Subd.
Minimum Bid Price 298,000.00

LOT 6 - LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 873 sqm. F.A. 103 sqm.
Lot No. 3373 M. Cuenco St
Minimum Bid Price 365,000.00

LOT 7 - LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 300 sqm. F.A. 108 sqm.
Lot 10-B-4-D-1-W Angie Subd.
Minimum Bid Price 310,000.00

LOT 8 - LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 532 sqm.
Lot 10-B-1-1-10-E-6-A Mundog Subd.
Minimum Bid Price 239,000.00

LOT 9 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 2,857 sqm.
Lot 2-S Guava & Langskn Sts Madrid Subd., Pob
Minimum Bid Price 7,150,000.00

LOT 10 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 1,470 sqm.
Lots 2-R-3-G, 2-R-3-H & 2-R-3-I Anahaw St. Pob
Minimum Bid Price 4,520,000.00

LOT 11 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 480 sqm.
Lot 2-P-2 Anahaw St. Pob
Minimum Bid Price 1,505,000.00

MAGPET
LOT 12 - LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 375 sqm. F.A. 74 sqm.
Lot 414+B-1-A-B Sanuel Subd.
Minimum Bid Price 156,000.00

LOT 13 - LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 284 sqm. F.A. 107 sqm.
Lot 6, Blk 8 Malos St
Minimum Bid Price 80,000.00

MAKILALA
LOT 14 - LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 360 sqm. F.A. 78 sqm.
Lot 4-P-6 Gnealan Subd., Purok 8, Pob
Minimum Bid Price 250,000.00

MATALAM
LOT 15 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 51,371 sqm
Lot 2 Blk 2 National Highway, Brgy. Manubuan Matalam North
Minimum Bid Price 1,530,000.00

M'LANG
LOT 16 - LOT W/ IMPRVT
WITHDRAWN
Minimum Bid Price 395,000.00

LOT 17 - LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 1,423 sqm. F.A. 78 sqm.
Lot 10097-A Barsholo Subd., Brgy. Inas
Minimum Bid Price 573,000.00

TULUNAN
LOT 18 - LOT W/ IMPRVT
WITHDRAWN
Minimum Bid Price 235,000.00

LOT 19 - LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 619 sqm. F.A. 147 sqm.
Lot 2025 Pob
Minimum Bid Price 405,000.00

LOT 20 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
L.A. 1,327 sqm.
Lot 3300, Lot 3301 Magsaysay And Burgos Sts Pob
Minimum Bid Price 494,000.00

MAASIM
LOT 21 - LOT W/ IMPRVTS
L.A. 327 sqm. F.A. 39 sqm.
Lot 1-H Municipal Circuit Rd., Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 98,000.00

GENERAL SANTOS
LOT 22 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 4,574 sqm
Lot 3-D Siway-Maker Road, Labangal
Minimum Bid Price 6,128,000.00

LOT 23 - LOT W/ IMPRVTS
L.A. 600 sqm. F.A. 126 sqm.
Lot 10 Blk 30 Purok San Vicente, Espina Subd., Labangal
Minimum Bid Price 450,000.00

LOT 24 - LOT W/ IMPRVTS
L.A. 9,564 sqm. F.A. 157 sqm.
Lot 826-A-1 Along Gumio St Brgy. San Isidro
Minimum Bid Price 3,690,000.00

LOT 25 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 14,170 sqm.
Lot A-2 15l Barrio, San Isidro
Minimum Bid Price 1,985,000.00

LOT 26 - LOT W/ IMPRVTS
L.A. 4,528 sqm.
Lot 2 Purok 2, Buayan
Minimum Bid Price 710,000.00

LOT 27 - W/ MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
WITHDRAWN
Makar Road Labangal
Minimum Bid Price 1,730,000.00

LOT 28 - LOT W/ IMPRVTS
L.A. 540 sqm. F.A. 201 sqm.
Lot 12 Blk 1, Dbp Compound, Lagao
Minimum Bid Price 1,280,000.00

LOT 29 - LOT W/ IMPRVTS
L.A. 277 sqm. F.A. 53 sqm.
Lot 803-B-4-B-7-B-7-E Morales Subd. City Heights
Minimum Bid Price 240,000.00

LOT 30 - LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 450 sqm. F.A. 218 sqm.
Lot No. 5030 Cannoish St
Minimum Bid Price 1,505,000.00

LOT 31 - LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 191 sqm.
Lot 4-A Sta. Cruz And San Juan Sts
Minimum Bid Price 210,000.00

LOT 32 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 9,808 sqm.
Lot H Purok 2, Bunyan
Minimum Bid Price 580,000.00

LOT 33 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 476 sqm.
Lot 4092 Cagampang Street, General Santos City
Minimum Bid Price 2,860,000.00

LOT 34 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 1,505 sqm.
Lot A-3-E Rivas Subd Brgy. Calumpang
Minimum Bid Price 305,200.00

LOT 35 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 19,073 sqm.
Lot 750-B Kinnan Rd. Brgy. Mabuhay
Minimum Bid Price 1,840,000.00

LOT 36 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 19,974 sqm.
Lot 750-E Kinnan Rd. Brgy. Mabuhay
Minimum Bid Price 1,840,000.00

LOT 37 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 10,000 sqm.
Lot 1-B-9 Brgy. Tambler
Minimum Bid Price 6,000,000.00

LOT 38 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 3,979 sqm.
Lot 20-D Bansil Subd., Tambler
Minimum Bid Price 1,275,000.00

LOT 39 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 6,769 sqm.
Lot 25-A Fronting Lot 39 Brgy. Fatima, Tambler
Minimum Bid Price 2,175,000.00

LOT 40 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 401 sqm.
Lot 21-J-5-E Bansil Subd., Tambler
Minimum Bid Price 170,000.00

LOT 41 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 10,000 sqm.
Lot 20-B Bansil Subd., Tambler
Minimum Bid Price 3,200,000.00

LOT 42 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 8,461 sqm.
Lot 19-C-2-B-1 Bansil Subd. Tambler
Minimum Bid Price 2,440,000.00

LOT 43 - VACANT LOT
WITHDRAWN
Tambler
Minimum Bid Price 4,260,000.00

LOT 44 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 476 sqm.
Lot 4092 Cagampang St.
Minimum Bid Price 2,850,000.00

LOT 45 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 33,331 sqm.
Lot 26-D-2-D Brgy. Tambler
Minimum Bid Price 4,250,000.00

POLOMOLOK
LOT 46 - LOT W/ IMPRVTS
L.A. 668 sqm. F.A. 165 sqm.
Lot 6 Blk 6 Cannery Housing Subd
Minimum Bid Price 770,000.00

LOT 47 - LOT W/ IMPRVTS
L.A. 300 sqm. F.A. 42 sqm.
Lot 6-2-9-C-4-A-5 Rofadasubd
Minimum Bid Price 105,000.00

LOT 48 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 300 sqm.
Lot 13 Blk 2 Sanchez Subd.
Minimum Bid Price 120,000.00

LOT 49 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 300 sqm.
Lot 9 Blk 2 Sanchez Subd
Minimum Bid Price 120,000.00

LOT 50 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 300 sqm.
Lot 15 Blk 2 Sanchez Subd
Minimum Bid Price 120,000.00

STO. NIÑO
LOT 51 - LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 309 sqm. F.A. 167 sqm.
Lot 1382-B-8-K-1 Calanza Subd., Pob.
Minimum Bid Price 290,000.00

LOT 52 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 202 sqm.
Lot 10 Blk 2 Eborde Subd., Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00

LOT 53 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 202 sqm.
Lot 11 Blk 2 Eborde Subd., Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00

LOT 54 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 201 sqm.
Lot 12 Blk 2 Eborde Subd., Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00

LOT 55 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 201 sqm.
Lot 9 Blk 2 Eborde Subd., Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00

LOT 56 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 200 sqm.
Lot 1383-G-4 Eborde Subd
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00

LOT 57 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 974 sqm.
Lot 1383-E-5 Eborde Subd.
Minimum Bid Price 190,000.00

LOT 58 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 200 sqm.
Lot 1383-G-5 Eborde Subd
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00

LOT 59 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 200 sqm.
Lot 1383-G-3 Eborde Subd
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00

LOT 60 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 200 sqm
Lot 1383-G-1 Eborde Subd
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00

LOT 61 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 200 sqm
Lot 1383-G-2 Eborde Subd.
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00

LOT 62 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 400 sqm.
Lot 1383-G-0 Eborde Subd
Minimum Bid Price 100,000.00

LOT 63 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 200 sqm. F.A. sqm.
Lot 11 Blk 3 Eborde Subd, Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00

LOT 64 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 201 sqm. F.A. sqm.
Lot 5 Blk 3 Eborde Subd Poblacion.
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00

LOT 65 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 201 sqm. F.A. sqm.
Lot 9 Blk 3 Eborde Subd, Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00

LOT 66 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 191 sqm. F.A. sqm.
Lot 2 Blk 0 Eborde Subd. Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 50,000.00

LOT 67 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 380 sqm.
Lot 1322-B-11-J-4-E Parian Subd. Pob
Minimum Bid Price 110,000.00

LOT 68 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 300 sqm. F.A. 300 sqm.
Lot No. 1320-I Poblacion, Sto Niño South
Minimum Bid Price 240,000.00

TUPI
LOT 69 - LOT W/ IMPRVTS
L.A. 820 sqm. F.A. 130 sqm.
Lot 78 Nat'l. Highway, Purok 13, Poblacion
Minimum Bid Price 765,000.00

ISULAN
LOT 70 - LOT W/ IMPRVTS
L.A. 1200 sqm. F.A. 90 sqm.
Lot 580-B-1-B & 580-B-1-C, Sultan Kudarat
Minimum Bid Price 490,000.00

LOT 71 - LOT W/ IMPRVTS
L.A. 700 sqm. F.A. 102 sqm.
Lot 6218 Sultan Kudarat
Minimum Bid Price 1,365,000.00

LOT 72 - LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 3,231 sqm.
Lot 1877-B Kalawag I Ext., Sultan Kudarat
Minimum Bid Price 440,000.00

LOT 73 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 1,491 sqm.
843 Kalawag I Sultan Kudarat
Minimum Bid Price 635,000.00

LOT 74 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 600 sqm.
321-B-2-B-1-H-3 Kalawag II Sultan Kudarat
Minimum Bid Price 155,000.00

LOT 75 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 293 sqm.
Lot 462-C-8-C, Brgy. Sampao, Sultan Kudarat
Minimum Bid Price 75,000.00

LOT 76 - VACANT LOT
L.A. 440 sqm.
Lot 262-A-2-E, Purok Capitol East, Brgy. Sampao, Sultan Kudarat
Minimum Bid Price 150,000.00

LOT 77 - LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 1,052 sqm.
3-F-4 & 3-G-1 Nat'l. Hi-Way, Poblacion, Sultan Kudarat
Minimum Bid Price 5,050,000.00

PRES. QUIRINO
LOT 78 - LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 1,260 sqm.
Lot 763-B-16, Lot 763-B-15, Lot 763-B-14, Purok Capilar, Pob., Sultan Kudarat
Minimum Bid Price 1,555,000.00

LOT 79 - LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 781 sqm.
Lot 767-B-24 Poblacion, Sultan Kudarat
Minimum Bid Price 240,000.00

TACURONG
LOT 80 - LOT W/ IMPRVTS
L.A. 366 sqm. F.A. 84 sqm.
Lot 6744-F-4 San Pablo, Sultan Kudarat
Minimum Bid Price 320,000.00

LOT 81 - LOT W/ IMPRVTS
L.A. 5,000 sqm. F.A. 420 sqm.
Lot 500-A-1 Buenaflor, Sultan Kudarat
Minimum Bid Price 5,375,000.00

LOT 82 - LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 592 sqm. F.A. 87 sqm.
Lot 500-A-1-F Buenaflor Subd
Minimum Bid Price 280,000.00

LOT 83 - LOT W/ IMPRVTS
L.A. 375 sqm. F.A. 75 sqm.
Lot 619-J-7-F-2, Purok Sampaguita, New Isabela
Minimum Bid Price 230,000.00

LOT 84 - LOT W/ IMPRVT
WITHDRAWN
Minimum Bid Price 1,755,000.00

LOT 85 - LOT W/ IMPRVT
L.A. 2189 sqm.
Lot 26/27/28 Brgy. Katungal
Minimum Bid Price 435,000.00

ADDITIONAL PROPERTIES

ANTIPAS
LOT 86 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 266.00 sqm.
FA 118.00 sqm.
Lot 714 L M L Quezon St., Pob
Minimum Bid Price 563,000.00

LOT 87 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 859.00 sqm.
Lot 715-B-1 M L Quezon St., Pob
Minimum Bid Price 233,000.00

LOT 88 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
LA 304.00 sqm.
Lot 4 Blk 11 J.P. Laurel St. Pob
Minimum Bid Price 39,000.00

ARAKAN
LOT 89 - AGRICULTURAL LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
LA 3499+45091+1000 = 49590 sqm.
Lot 106-A, 106-B, 106-C Brgy Badiangon
Minimum Bid Price 226,000.00

CARMEN
LOT 90 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 1,200.00 sqm.
FA 92.00 sqm
Lot 2129 Cor. Acacia-Guava-Santos Sts., Pob
Minimum Bid Price 244,000.00

LOT 91 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 1,199.00 sqm
FA 138.00 sqm.
Lot 1074 Cor. Rambutan & Lanzones Sts., Pob
Minimum Bid Price 488,000.00

LOT 92 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 600.00 sqm.
FA 131.00 sqm.
Lot 2214-B Cor. Sampaguita & Dahlia Sts. Pob
Minimum Bid Price 449,000.00

LOT 93 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 600.00 sqm.
FA 53.00 sqm.
Lot 1956-B Pob
Minimum Bid Price 288,000.00

LOT 94 - VACANT LOT
LA 1,200.00 sqm.
Lot 1540 Purok 2 Pob
Minimum Bid Price 192,000.00

KABACAN
LOT 95 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 233.00 sqm.
FA 302.00 sqm.
Lot 713-L-4-F-1-B & 1-B-11, Blk 3 Usm Avenue
Minimum Bid Price 1,665,000.00

LOT 96 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
LA 867.00 sqm.
Lot 754-B 15 Mm Malvar St. Pob.
Minimum Bid Price 1,045,000.00

LOT 97 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 500.00 sqm.
FA 100.00 sqm.
Lot 2058-A Nat'l. Highway [illegible]
Minimum Bid Price 482,000.00

KIDAPAWAN
LOT 98 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 850.00 sqm.
FA 157.00 sqm.
Lot 54-A-5 Subd. Road Navel Subd., Brgy. Lanao
Minimum Bid Price 482,000.00

LOT 99 - VACANT
LA 494.00 sqm.
Lot 3007-B Tomas Claudio St
Minimum Bid Price 210,000.00

MAKILALA
LOT 100 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 800.00 sqm
FA 158.00 sqm.
Lot 20-B-1-C Dapon Subd. Brgy. Saguing
Minimum Bid Price 266,000.00

MATALAM
LOT 101 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
LA 1,200.00 sqm.
Lot 67-E-2-B-2 Pob
Minimum Bid Price 117,000.00

LOT 102 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 306.00 sqm.
FA 370.00 sqm.
Lot 56-B-10 Pob.
Minimum Bid Price 800,000.00

LOT 103 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 832.00 sqm.
FA 232.00 sqm.
Lot 55-J National Highway Pob
Minimum Bid Price 300,000.00

M'LANG
LOT 104 - AGRILAND
LA 23,414.00 sqm.
Lot 1534-A Dungo-An
Minimum Bid Price 225,000.00

LOT 105 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 400.00 sqm.
FA 305.00 sqm.
Lot 10099-I-7-I-6 Juson Subd. Brgy. Inas
Minimum Bid Price 778,000.00

LOT 106 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 6,902.00 sqm.
FA 1,717.00 sqm.
Lot 2647-E Bagontapay
Minimum Bid Price 2,667,000.00

LOT 107 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 360.00 sqm.
FA 136.00 sqm.
Lot 2626-C Brgy. Road Public Market, Bagontapay
Minimum Bid Price 217,000.00

LOT 108 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 756.00 sqm.
FA 269.00 sqm.
Lot 3212 Jacinto St., Pob
Minimum Bid Price 817,000.00

PIKIT
LOT 109 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
LA 848.00 sqm.
Lot 939 Brgy. Batulawan
Minimum Bid Price 77,000.00

LOT 110 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
LA 922.00 sqm.
Lot 950 Brgy. Batulawan
Minimum Bid Price 69,000.00

LOT 111 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 773.00 sqm.
FA 300.00 sqm.
Lot 74 Lapu-Lapu St., Pob
Minimum Bid Price 483,000.00

LOT 112 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 683.00 sqm.
FA 58.00 sqm.
Lot 68 Lapu Lapu St
Minimum Bid Price 318,750.00

PRES. ROXAS
LOT 113 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
LA 63,635.00 sqm.
Lot 4607 Del Pilar
Minimum Bid Price 294,000.00

TULUGAN
LOT 114 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
LA 100,332.00 sqm.
Lot 207 La Esperanza
Minimum Bid Price 675,000.00

GENERAL SANTOS
LOT 115 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 397.75 sqm.
FA 190.00 sqm.
Lot 10 No. 10 Catalsol Road, Bliss Housing Calumpang
Minimum Bid Price 407,000.00

LOT 116 - VACANT
LA 6,789.00 sqm.
Lot 25-A Road (Public Land) Fronting Lot 39 Brgy. Fatima Tambler
Minimum Bid Price 2,173,000.00

LOT 117 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 585.00 sqm.
FA 306.00 sqm.
Lot 11 Block 4 Road Lot Mateo Subdivision Mateo Road Lagao
Minimum Bid Price 1,173,000.00

LOT 118 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 585.00 sqm.
FA 239.00 sqm.
Lot 14, Block 4 Road Lot (Alley) Mateo Subdivision Mateo Road. Lagao
Minimum Bid Price 969,000.00

LOT 119 - VACANT LOT
LA 254 + 238 = 492.00 sqm.
Lot 2 & Lot 4 Blk 1 Subd. Road Lansang Village Phase I, Lagao
Minimum Bid Price 136,000.00

LOT 120 - AGRILAND
LA 19,974.00 sqm.
Lot 750-E Kinnan-Mabuhay Road Brgy. Mabuhay
Minimum Bid Price 1,838,000.00

LOT 121 - AGRILAND
LA 19,973.00 sqm.
Lot 750-B Kinnan Mabuhay Road Mabuhay-Kinnan Road Brgy. Mabuhay
Minimum Bid Price 1,838,000.00

LOT 122 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 9,564.00 sqm.
FA 157.00 sqm.
Lot 826-A-1 Along Gumio St., Brgy. San Isidro
Minimum Bid Price 3,425,000.00

LOT 123 - VACANT
LA 10,000.00 sqm.
Lot 20-B Subd. Road Bansil Subd. Tambler
Minimum Bid Price 3,200,000.00

LOT 124 - VACANT
LA 3,979.00 sqm.
Lot 20-D Subd. Road Bansil Subd. Tambler
Minimum Bid Price 1,274,000.00

LOT 125 - VACANT
LA 8,451.00 sqm
Lot 19-C-2-B-1 Subd. Road Bansil Subd. Tambler
Minimum Bid Price 2,437,000.00

LOT 126 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 352.00 sqm.
FA 304.00 sqm.
Lot 804-F-8-D, Orange Subd. City Heights
Minimum Bid Price 413,000.00

LOT 127 - LOT WITH MAKESHIFT IMPROVEMENT
LA 398.00 sqm.
Lot 879-B-J-A-2 Subd. Road Lot I, Zaldivar Subd., City Heights
Minimum Bid Price [illegible]

POLOMOLOK
LOT 128 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 300.00 sqm
FA 42.00 sqm.
Lot 4 Blk 1 Tuazon Subd
Minimum Bid Price 207,000.00

LOT 129 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 300.00 sqm.
FA 42.00 sqm.
Lot 6-Z-9-C-4-A-5 Subd. Road Ranada Subd
Minimum Bid Price 105,000.00

STO. NIÑO
LOT 130 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 507.00 sqm.
FA 250.00 sqm.
Lot 1322-B-11-J-4-H-4 Farm Road Parian Subd. Pob
Minimum Bid Price 416,000.00

SURALLAH
LOT 131 - LOT & IMPROVEMENT
LA 358.00 sqm.
FA 77.00 sqm.
Lot 43 Road Lot 73 Capuntian Subd. Pob
Minimum Bid Price 192,000.00

DIGOS
LOT 132 - VACANT LOT
LA 200.00 sqm.
Lot 11 Blk 3 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 32,000.00

LOT 133 - VACANT LOT
LA 197.00 sqm
Lot 14 Blk 3 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 32,000.00

LOT 134 - VACANT LOT
LA 200.00 sqm
Lot 6 Blk 4 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 32,000.00

LOT 135 - VACANT LOT
LA 200.00 sqm.
Lot 7 Blk 4 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 32,000.00

LOT 136 - VACANT LOT
LA 200.00 sqm.
Lot 8 Blk 4 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 32,000.00

LOT 137 - VACANT LOT
LA 200.00 sqm.
Lot 9 Blk 4 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 32,000.00

LOT 138 - VACANT LOT
LA 200.00 sqm.
Lot 11 Blk 4 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 32,000.00

LOT 139 - VACANT LOT
LA 200.00 sqm.
Lot 12 Blk 4 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 32,000.00

LOT 140 - VACANT LOT
LA 197.00 sqm.
Lot 13 Blk 4 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 32,000.00

LOT 141 - VACANT LOT
LA 197.00 sqm
Lot 14 Blk 4 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 32,000.00

LOT 142 - VACANT LOT
LA 222.00 sqm.
Lot 1 Blk 5 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 36,000.00

LOT 143 - VACANT LOT
LA 210.00 sqm
Lot 2 Blk 5 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 34,000.00

LOT 144 - VACANT LOT
LA 210.00 sqm.
Lot 3 Blk 5 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 34,000.00

LOT 145 - VACANT LOT
LA 222.00 sqm
Lot 4 Blk 5 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 36,000.00

LOT 146 - VACANT LOT
LA 195.00 sqm
Lot 13 Blk 6 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 32,000.00

LOT 147 - VACANT LOT
LA 195.00 sqm.
Lot 17 Blk 7 Ruparan
Minimum Bid Price 32,000.00

LOT 148 - LOT W/ IMPROVEMENT
LA 966.00 sqm.
FA 57.00 sqm.
Lot 12-G-9-E-1 Subd. Road, Cagape Subd. San Jose
Minimum Bid Price 591,000.00

LOT 149 - VACANT LOT
LA 4,940.00 sqm.
Lot 12-G-9-F Subd. Road, Cagape Subd. San Jose
Minimum Bid Price 1,976,000.00

LOT 150 - LOT W/ IMPROVEMENT
LA 726.00 sqm
FA 297.00 sqm.
L 386 Del Pilar St.
Minimum Bid Price 1,542,000.00

- GUARANTEED FINANCING-FIXED INTEREST UP TO 10YRS
- 10% DOWN PAYMENT FOR LOTS
- 25% DOWN PAYMENT FOR DEVELOPED PROPERTIES
- DEPOSIT PHP 25,000.00 CASH, MANAGER'S CHECK (NO DEPOSIT NO PARTICIPATION)
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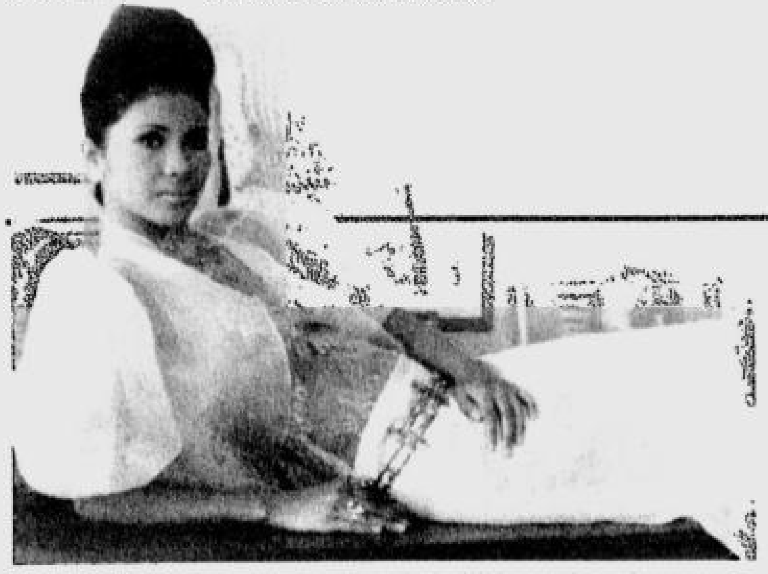
Baguio designers want their garbs to rule

Fashion group moves to rid city of 'wagwag central' tag



LIESEL VERCES hopped on a table filled with Igorot icons in see-through Filipiniana jacket and body suit courtesy of Olec Josephus Nalupa.

PHOTOS BY EV ESPIRITU, PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

By Vincent Cabreza
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY—TAKING another stab at tearing down the tourist-drawing "ukay ukay" (secondhand garments business) in Baguio, fashion designers, hair stylists, tailors and photographers are organizing themselves into a business network that will develop a potential P20 million local fashion market.

Patterned after the one-stop-shop business centers, the newly formed Artist League Unlimited (ALU) is inviting events coordinators, photographers, beauty parlor operators and weavers to join their campaign to introduce new fashion trends to tourists.

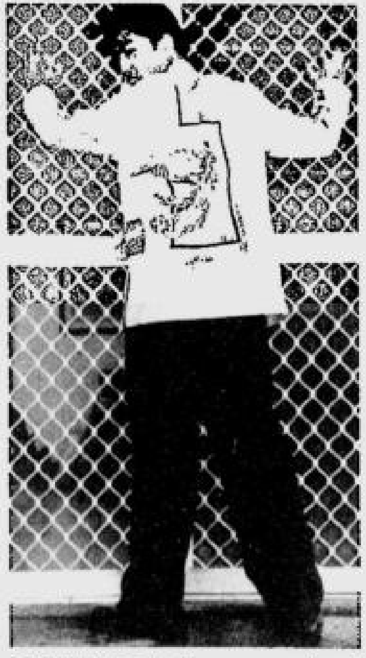
Geminina Bautista-Datu, a member of ALU, says Baguio does not deserve the tag as the country's "wagwag (or ukay ukay) central" (local term for imported bargain items sold along sidewalks and inside small rented shops).

She says wagwag hunters should be ready for original and inexpensive materials, considering that they "come up to Baguio, going to seedy places looking for fashion."

Datu says local designers and tailors can match a used Prada business suit that sells for P1,200 in wagwag houses with originally designed suits using Chinese fabrics, and a price tag that's a few hundred pesos lower.

Chinese organza fabric used to sell at a retail price of P80 a yard, but the cost has gone down to P60 a yard, and the trend reveals that prices may fall again soon, says Eros Goze, one of ALU's fashion designers.

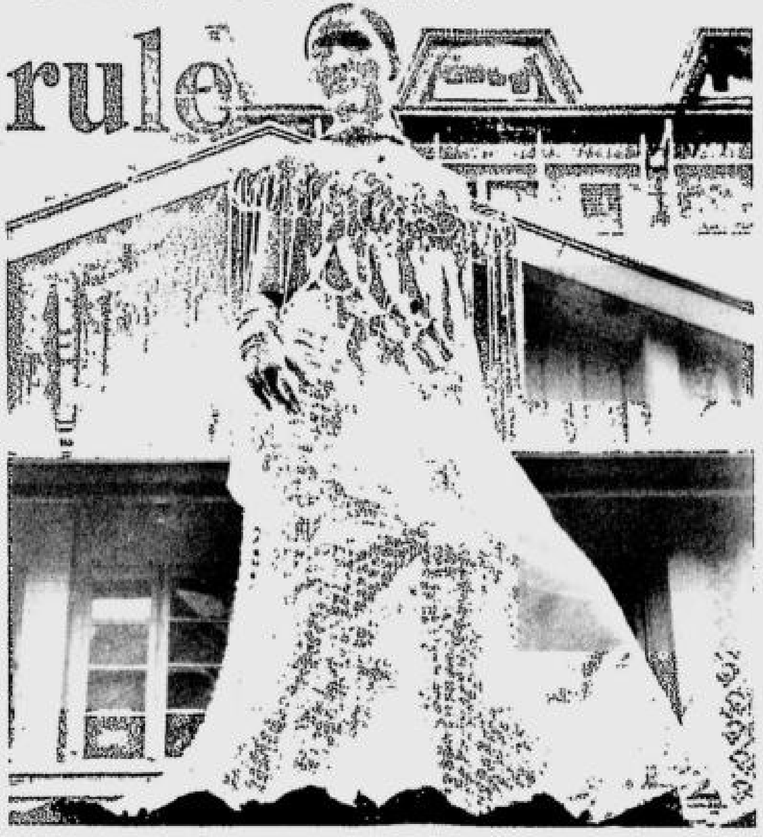
Goze says labor costs can also be trimmed down to a manageable level, if all of the stylists, tailors and designers of the ALU network agree to keep costs down so they can attend to fresh contracts that will reestablish Baguio's garments business.



GENESIS Cabrillas wears a hand painted barong tagalog by Eros Goze.

Datu says wagwag would keep their original designs cheaply priced because discarded used clothes from Hong Kong provide them with large supplies of imported fabric

But ALU is doing more than just beat down the lucrative P1 million-a-day bargain clothes market.



LOUISELANE Drenzy Marquez inspects an old Baguio house in an orange couture gown by Eddy Suguitan.

The group is also empowering gay men who have been unable to build up their small businesses here due in part to competition brought by imported underground garments.

These small shops are also competing among themselves. There are over 100 tailoring and beauty shops in Baguio today, according to the city licensing office.

Goze, who is the former chapter president of the Fashion Designers Association of the Philippines, says almost all of these shops are run by homosexual men, who ventured into the beauty shop trade because that was a stereotyped job they were accustomed to tackle.

An informal survey conducted by a local group indicated an absence in economic growth for most operators of beauty shops.

The typical Baguio beauty shop requires a P100,000-investment, but steep rental rates and the slow pace of walk-in clients often compel some of these shops to close within eight months.

The huge number of shops, however, is a good sign.

Madrid says Cordillerans no longer shun gay men, and more openly, homosexual men have gone public through their business ventures.

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President of Peter Paul Philippine Corporation

FAQ

Q: WHAT DO YOU THINK IS THE KEY FACTOR TO PETER PAUL'S 60-YR.SUCCESS ?

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Q: WHAT IS PETER PAUL'S MISSION-VISION?

JTQ: "To utilize our competencies to maintain and enhance our worldwide reputation as a premier producer of quality coconut products. To continue to value the interest of our customers, employees, shareholders and community." Bearing these in mind, Peter Paul can achieve a whole lot more being the biggest producer / manufacturer of Virgin coconut oil.

Q: WHAT ARE SOME OF THE BREAKTHROUGH PRODUCTS PETER PAUL WILL BE INTRODUCING IN THE NEXT 5-10 YEARS?

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Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso
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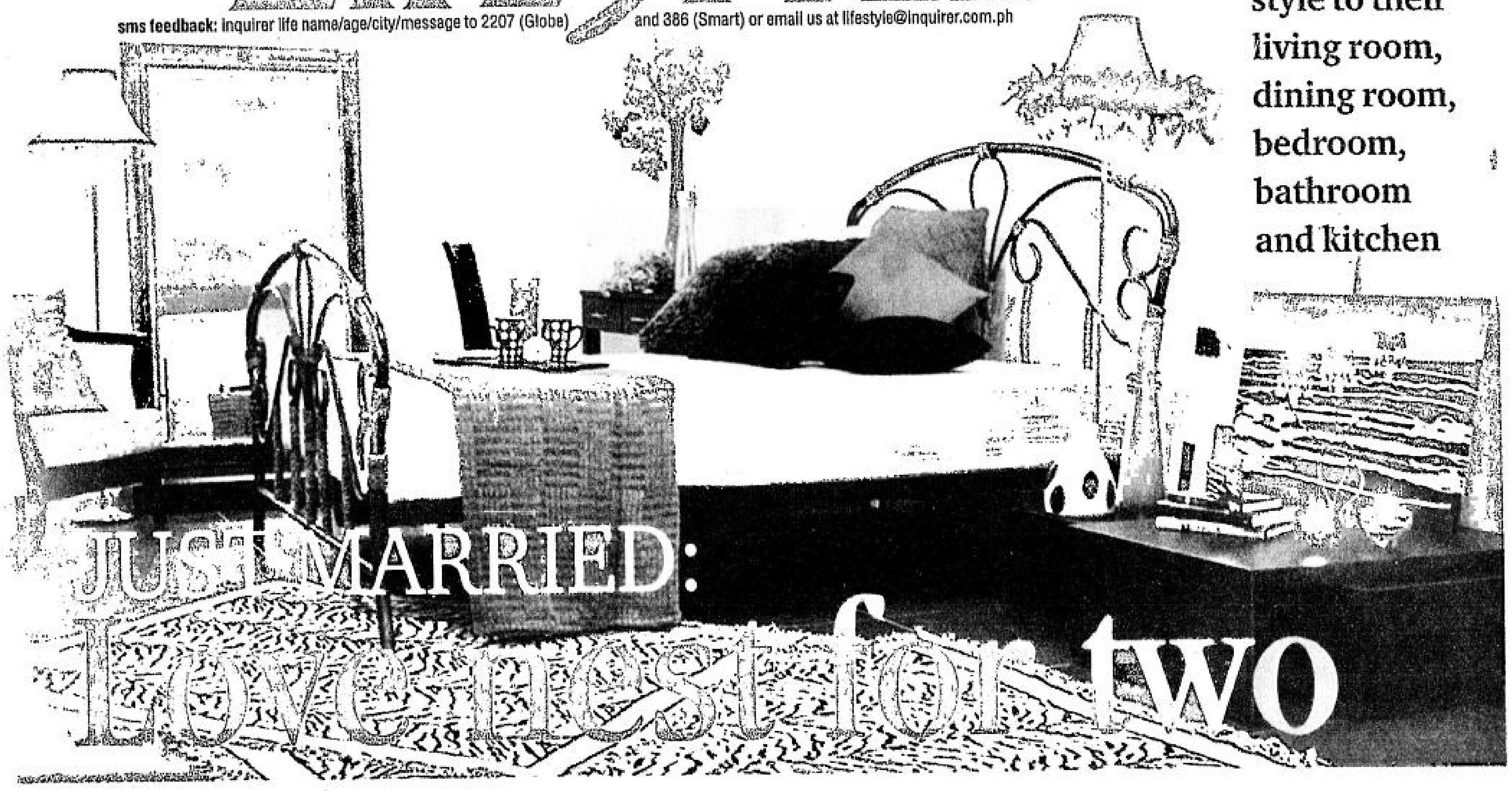
at HOME

Design ideas for newlyweds to add blissful style to their living room, dining room, bedroom, bathroom and kitchen



JUST MARRIED: Love nest for two

By Alex Y. Vergara

FASHION DOES MIRROR INTERIor design. Model and interior design student Apples Aberin-Sadhwani channels the current rage among fashionistas to wrap themselves in animal prints by creating a bedroom showcase that mixes and matches zebra-print throws, animal-print candles and feathered lampshades with a matrimonial bed made of rope and wrought iron, all from Play & Display.

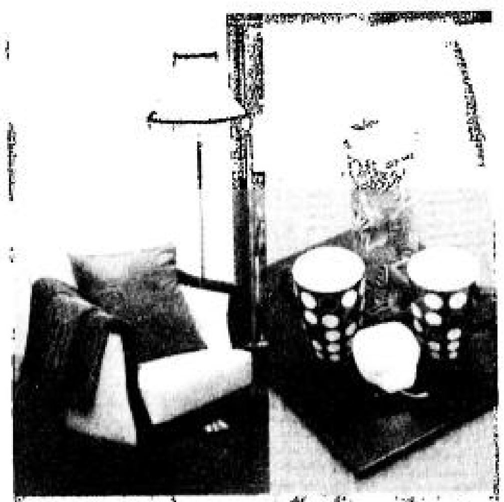
Since husband and wife will share this bedroom, Aberin-Sadhwani resorts to a great deal of neutral-colored pieces such as brown, beige and black. She infuses colors through such accessories as vases, throw pillows and paintings.

Apart from the use of neutral colors, she also imparts the space with an eclectic feel that marries both masculine and feminine characteristics: leather chair set against gilt-framed mirror, leather and furry throw pillows, and neo-baroque candlestick atop streamlined coffee table. She also eschews traditional bedside tables in favor of unpredictable pieces that are either family heirlooms or carryovers from the couple's days as swinging singles.

Creating a bedroom together could be a couple's first big test as married partners. Aberin-Sadhwani insists that both parties should be involved in every aspect of the design process—from choosing furniture pieces to paint colors. This way, she adds, the bedroom will reflect their respective personalities and not just one person's preference.

ALL FURNITURE AND ACCESSORIES FROM PLAY & DISPLAY

LOVE NEST/ C2



PHOTOS JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

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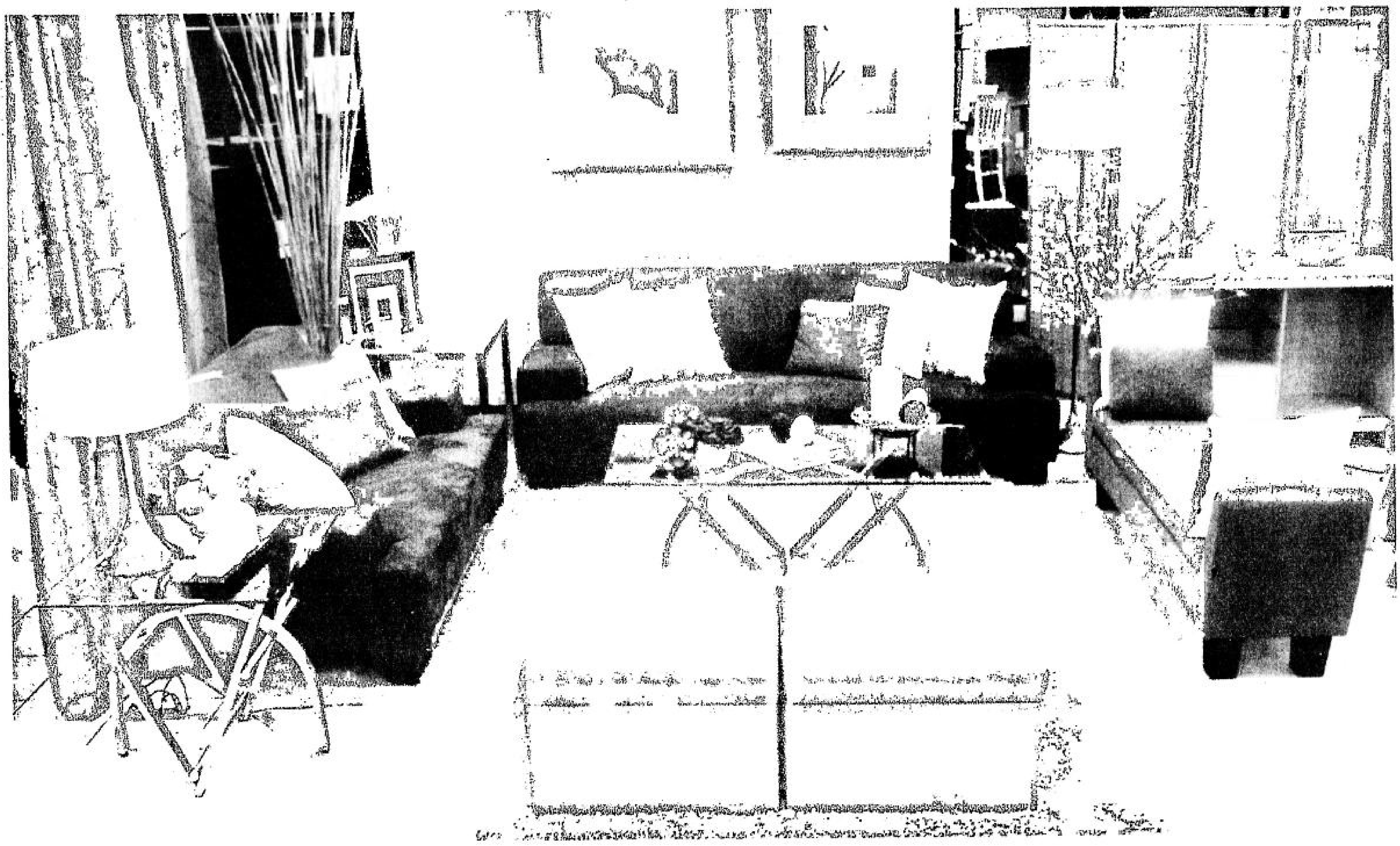


Love nest

ANDROGYNOUS

INTERIOR DESIGNER JIE PAMBID OF the Philippine School of Interior Design assembles a living-room showcase that involves "traditional pieces in an unconventional way for a contemporary setting."

To achieve his vision, Pambid makes use of a three-seater, two-seater, two ottomans, two side tables, a bench and coffee table, all from Our Home at SM Megamall. Apart from taking up relatively small space, the showcase evokes youth and fun, but at the same time is designed to last long without looking tired or dated.

Pambid purposely went for neutral, "androgynous" colors, which he considers suitable both for conversation and entertaining. Such a color scheme, he adds, is ideal for newlyweds since it's virtually maintenance-free.

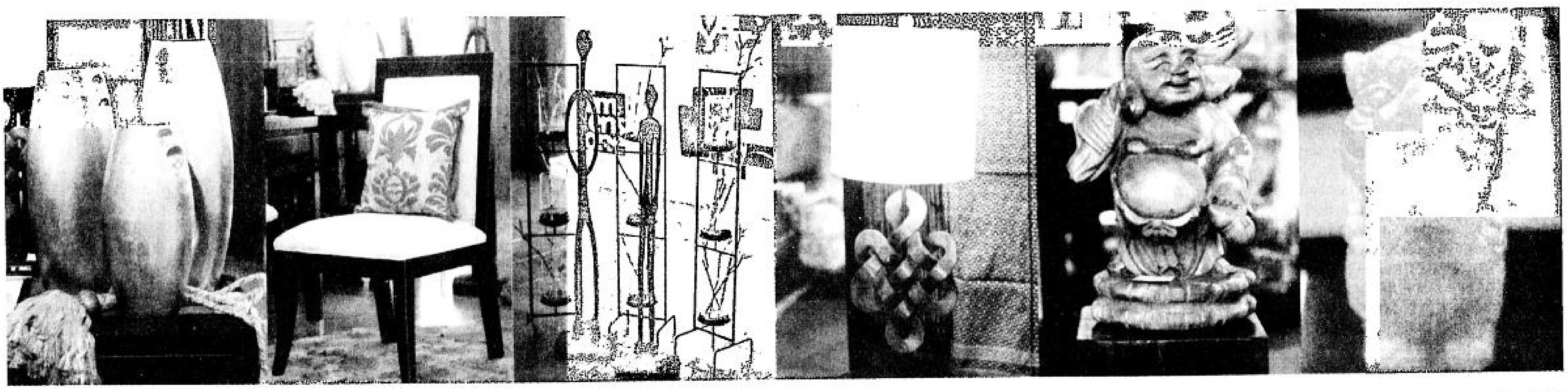
Before buying pieces for the living room, Pambid advises couples to determine first what their priorities are. Do you intend to use the space primarily for conversations or for frequent cocktail parties? Only then can you make wise shopping decisions.

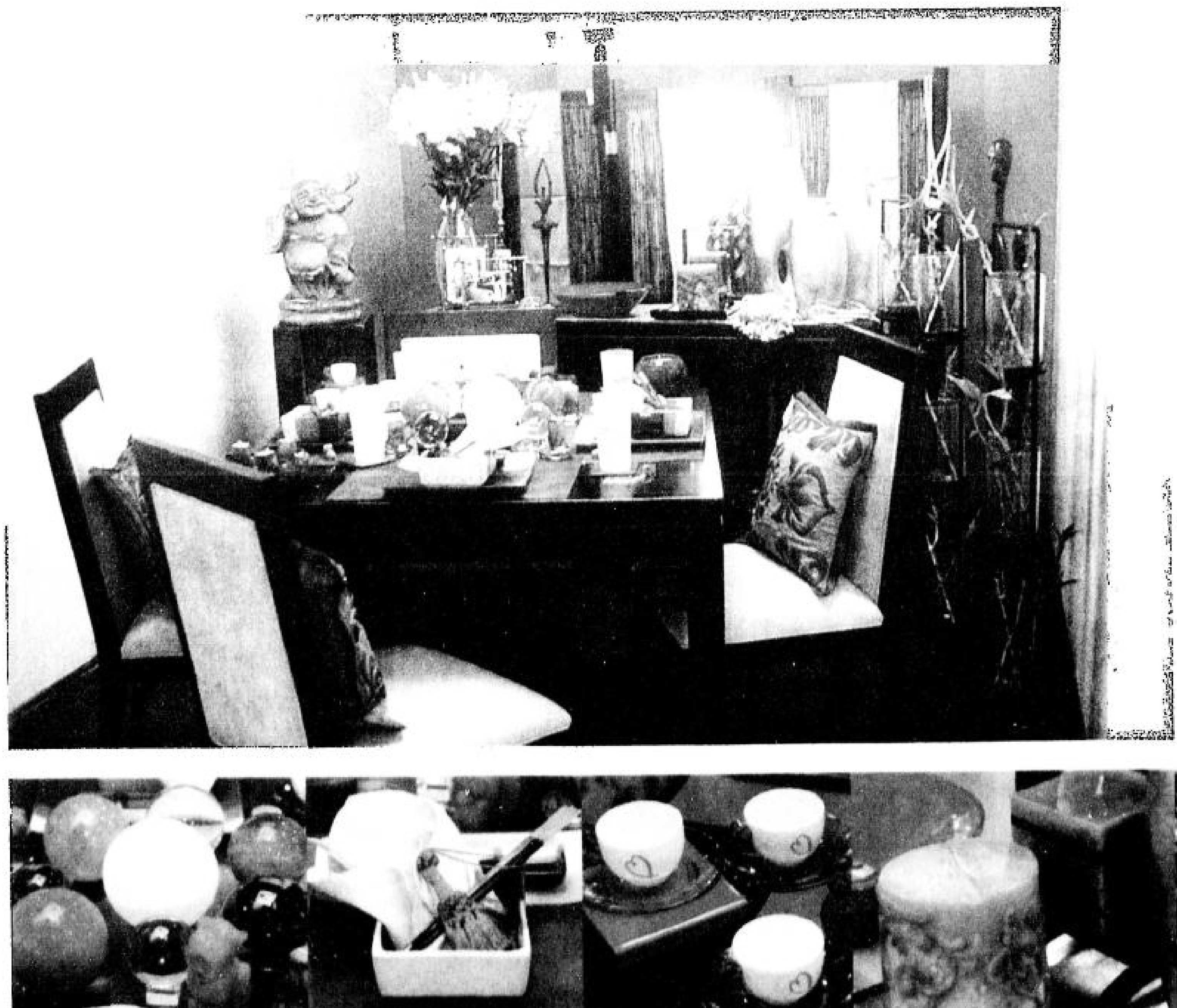
Since the living room is meant for people who are visiting, he thinks it's better to stick to neutral shades. This doesn't mean, however, that the owners should refrain from injecting their personalities into the mix. In this case, they should let their accessories, from picture frames to paintings, vases to throw pillows, do the talking.

ALL FURNITURE AND ACCESSORIES FROM OUR HOME AT SM MEGAMALL

From page C1

PHOTOS: JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN





CHINESE [illegible]

TO CREATE A DINING room showcase with hints of Orientalia, interior designer Tessa Prieto-Valdes works with various furniture pieces available at the Home Zone in Glorietta. The main dining table and chairs, as well as the hanging light fixtures, are from Restoration, while the crystal balls are from Victoria. In an attempt to "personalize" the place, she also makes use of several picture frames from Dimensione.

She takes into consideration the limited space most newlyweds have to work with and chooses a streamlined glass-topped table. The versatile-looking chairs, which take on a different character when paired with accent throw pillows from Zeba, can double as accent pieces in the living room.

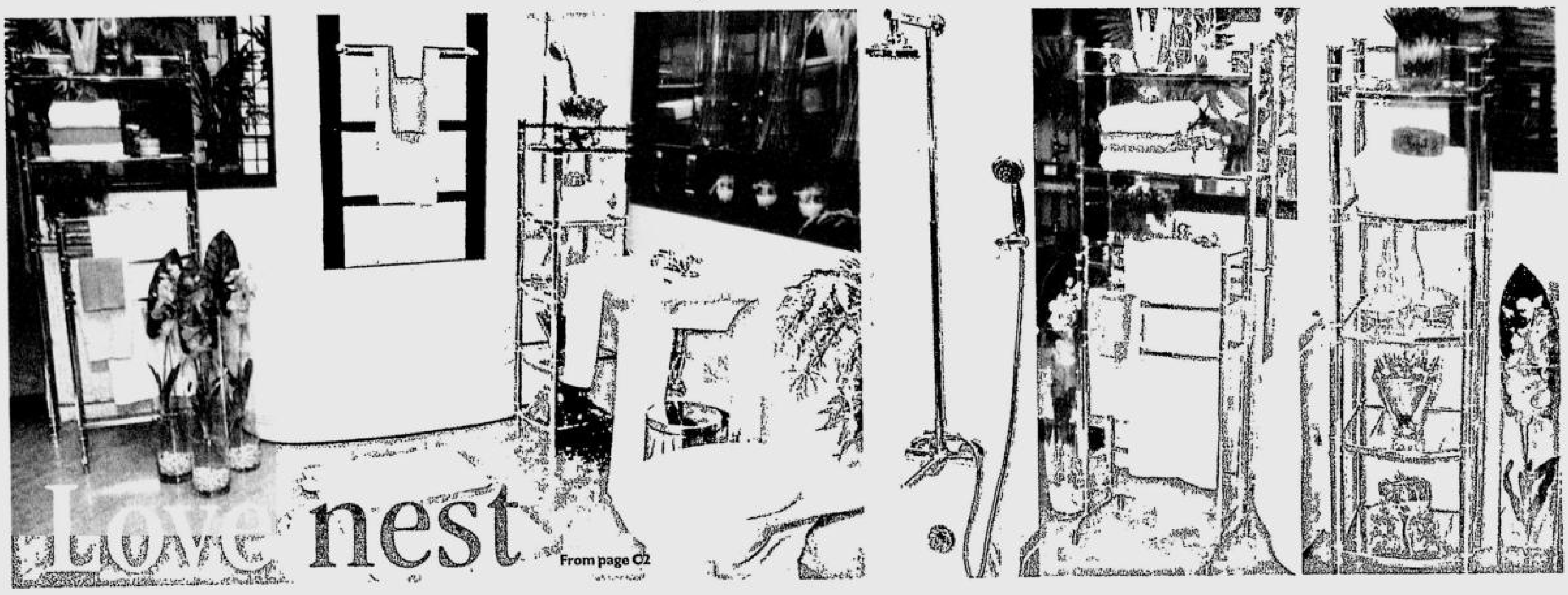
A divider from Home & Bound defines the dining area from the imaginary living room without disrupting the flow of air. Valdes adds decorative tassels from Shell Canvas to the divider to make it look more chic.

Before buying furniture pieces, she says, it's important for newlyweds to check if the furniture's dimensions onform to the space for which they're intended. Couples must think long-term when buying big or major furniture pieces and short-term when buying accents.

The design enables newlyweds to change the dining room's look often, while affording them the chance to invest on vases, plates and glasses that won't be too expensive to replace when they break. When they do get into a fight after the honeymoon, they can throw the décor away (not at each other, hopefully) sans regrets.

ALL FURNITURE AND ACCESSORIES FROM HOME ZONE AT GLORIETTA 4

LOVE NEST/ C3



Love nest

From page C2

SOFT, LUSH AND BRIGHT

INSTEAD OF STICKING TO NEUTRAL shades, interior designers Chelle Laborte, Monica Lagman and Tantan Pambid infuse their bathroom showcase, composed of various elements from Handyman and Robinsons Department Store, with orange, green and other strong colors.

To soften the effect of stainless-steel racks and organizers, the trio spruced the space up with a series of tall, transparent vases with attractive and virtually maintenance-free silk flowers.

A small home's bathroom may be modest in size, but it can be filled with luxurious, fluffy towels, area rugs and even slippers. This is one stage in the newlyweds' lives, says Laborte, where they can (and should) fully enjoy such luxuries.

Couples can also vary the look of their bathrooms without wreaking havoc on their budgets. For one, says Laborte, they can occasionally use fresh flowers in lieu of silk ones. They can also change accent colors by regularly changing accessories—from area rugs to shower curtains—in different shades and prints.

Candles, potpourri, real petals and homemade scents for those occasional aromatherapy sessions can also jazz up the bathroom experience. The time for the couple to indulge is now before those little ones start coming one after the other.

ALL FIXTURES FROM HANDYMAN AND
ALL ACCESSORIES FROM RDS

LOVE NEST/ C4

PHOTOS RUDY ESPERAS

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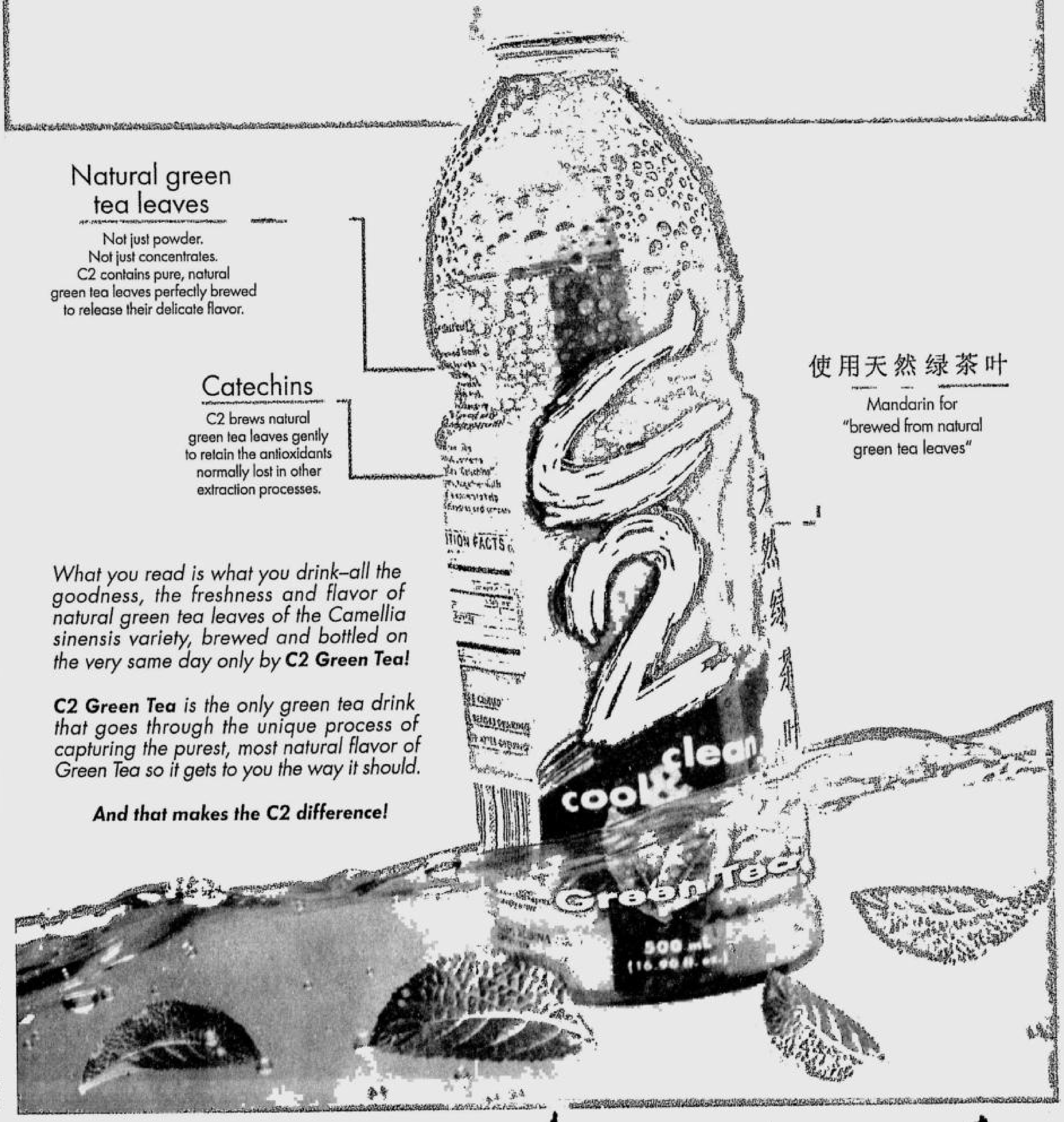

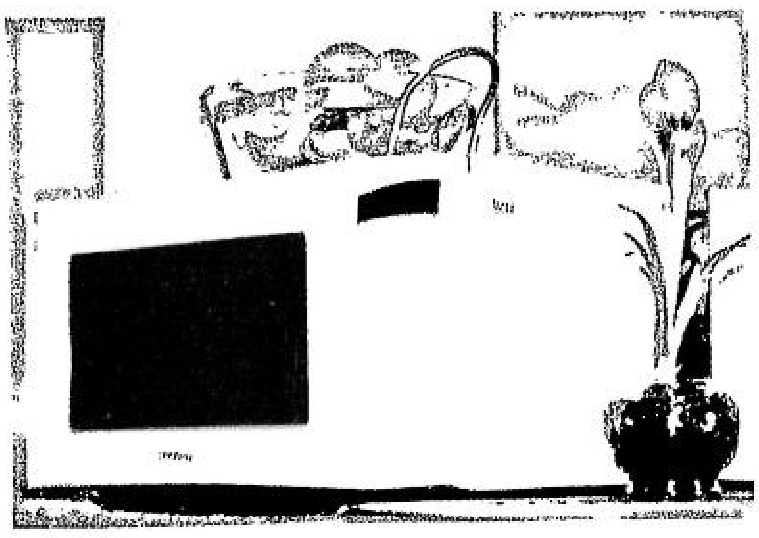

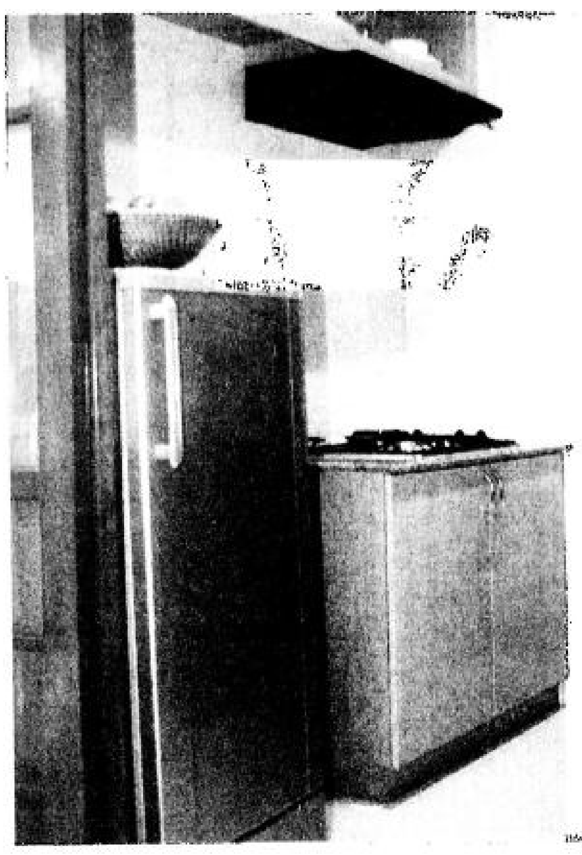

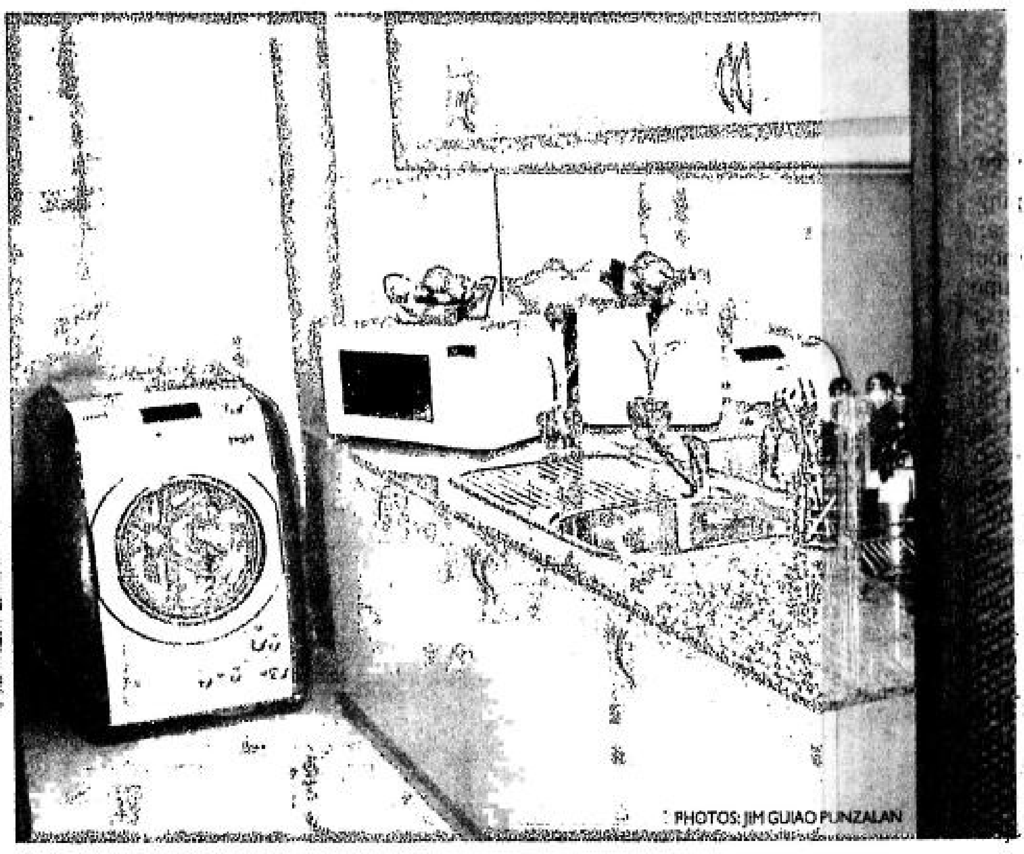

PHOTOS: JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

Love nest

From page C3

A STARTER home for newlyweds is usually equipped with a kitchen where everything is conveniently within reach. Thankfully, there are modern appliances that can make life easy for new couples to assume their kitchen chores. Rookie cooks will find Samsung's space-saving 6.4-cubic feet single-door refrigerator a blessing. Stylish enough for an elegant condo unit in Megaworld's Bellagio at Forbes Town at the Fort (special payment packages are being offered), it also assures optimum food preservation.

Features include the spacious freezer, chiller, bottle and vegetable bin, plus durable wire shelves, semi-automatic defrost system, and see-through freezer door.

No kitchen should be without an oven range. It gets even better if this essential appliance is built-in. A good-sized microwave oven is also a must, especially if both partners are working. Nothing quite compares to the instant gratification a microwave oven gives.

Of course, every well-furnished nest has to have room for a washing machine, which is no longer a luxury these days but a necessity.

The Samsung H1245A 10-kg drum-type washing machine comes with the Silver Nano Kit System and spin speed of 1200 rpm, customized wash program, sensor function, stainless steel tub, child-lock function, digital display and, best of all, super quiet operation.

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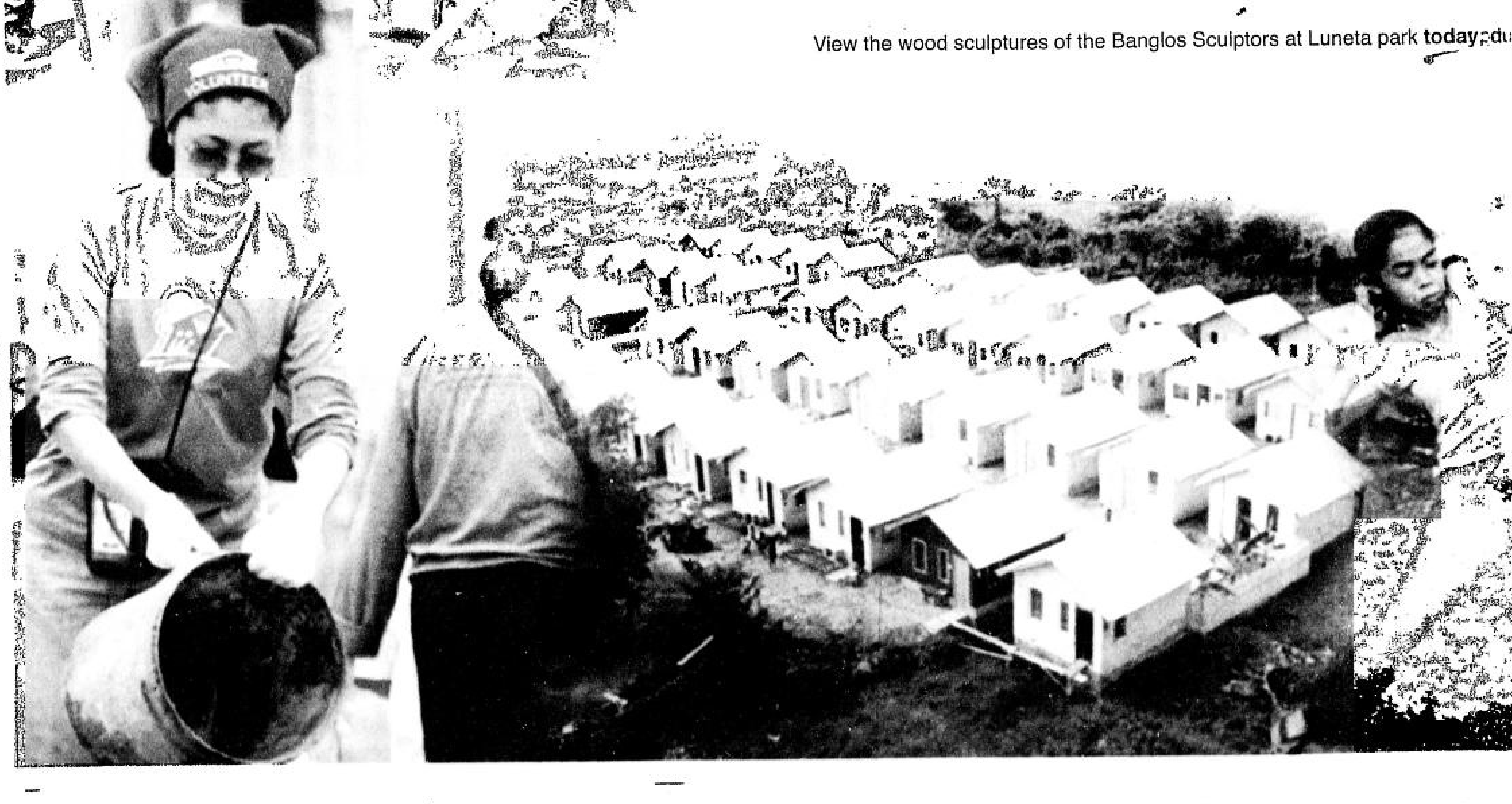

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View the wood sculptures of the Banglos Sculptors at Luneta park today du

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Weddings and wish lists

From page C8

ping and delivery of gifts. Exchanges can be arranged, too, although duplicates are almost an impossibility because Borders offers mostly big items.

Bonus: If the purchases reach a certain amount, Borders offers to host the bridal shower for up to 40 guests. "We take care of everything—from the invitation, the food and the games," said Liane Bautista, Borders' marketing consultant. It also provides the couple with a Gift Summary which can aid them when they prepare their thank-you cards.

Ethan Allen

Couples who visit the Ethan Allen showroom and choose their desired gifts will be given registry coupons, depending on the number of guests. These coupons may be used to purchase items on the couple's wish list. Exchanges are allowed and couples can add to their list anytime. Top picks are sofas, beds and mattresses. Ethan Allen offers gift certificates as well.

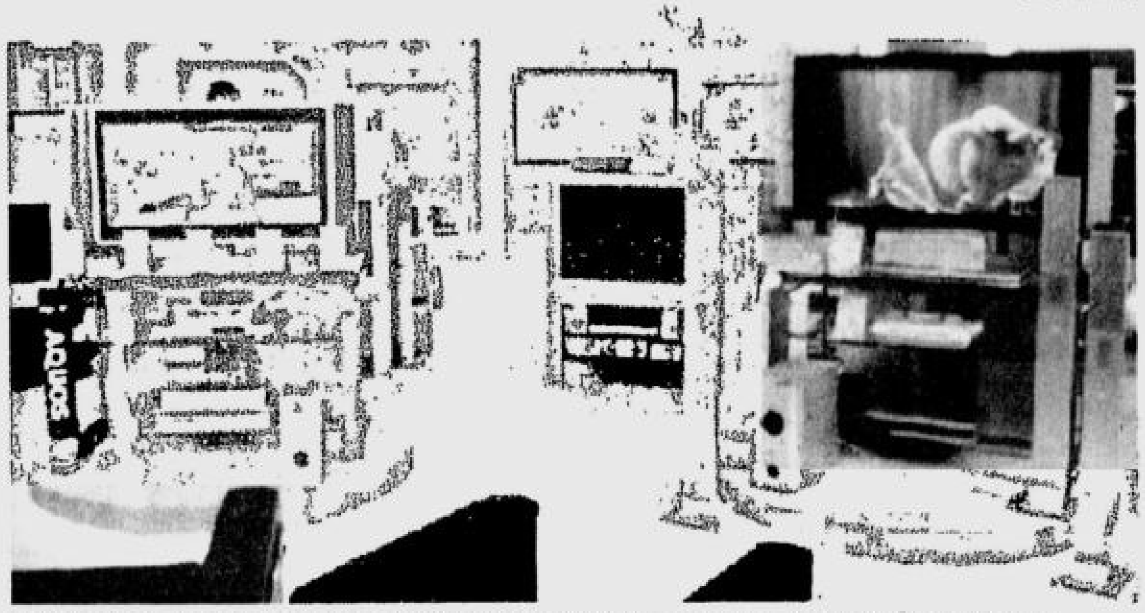
Bonus: Ethan Allen has professional interior designers who can assist the couples while they select items for their list. They can also hold a *despedida de soltera* for good clients. The shower, held at the store showroom, is good for up to 30 guests. Ethan Allen also offer high discounts—sometimes going up to 25 percent for custom orders.

Gourdo's

Gourdo's asks you to fill out forms and then hand you a checklist so you can go around the store and choose the items you want on your registry. The list is then printed while you wait. When you sign up at Gourdo's, your guests can also buy gifts for you from Living Well at The Podium. Dhaize Lacson, registry assistant at The Fort branch, said the first things to be bought are the whiteware—tea sets, cups and saucers, basic plates.

In case there are duplicates, you may exchange the items for other things you like. Your registry stays active a year after your wedding.

Bonus: Gourdo's provides 30-50 invitation inserts so you can announce your registry to your guests. Guests enjoy a five-percent discount and free gift wrapping when they buy items from your list. In case there are items on your list that you don't receive, you can enjoy a 15-percent discount when you buy them. Gourdo's will also send you a gift on your first anniversary.



HOME entertainment systems are top picks from Avant Abenson Greenbelt 4 (tel. 7582315 to 17)

Play & Display

Couples can go to any Play & Display store to sign up. Then their names will be featured in the bridal registry standee at all showrooms. Top picks include queen-sized beds in fabric and soft leather, center tables, trendy lounge sofas, and tempered glass dining sets. The list can be updated anytime. Play & Display accepts returns and exchanges "as long as it is within the legal customer servicing premise."

Bonus: Play & Display offers guests 10-percent on cash purchases and five-percent discount on credit-card purchases.

Regalong Pambahay

Regalong Pambahay allows couples to register at any of its branches. Top picks are lamps, pottery and pillows. Exchanges and additions to the list are welcome. Bridal registrants are announced with a signage and the names of the couples also appear on Regalong Pambahay's website where guests who don't have time to visit the store can order items online.

Bonus: Free gift wrapping and free delivery within Metro Manila for a minimum purchase of P3,000. The couple is also given a maximum of 30 bridal discount cards that they can give away to guests. The card entitles them to a 10-percent discount on cash purchases and five percent on credit card transactions.

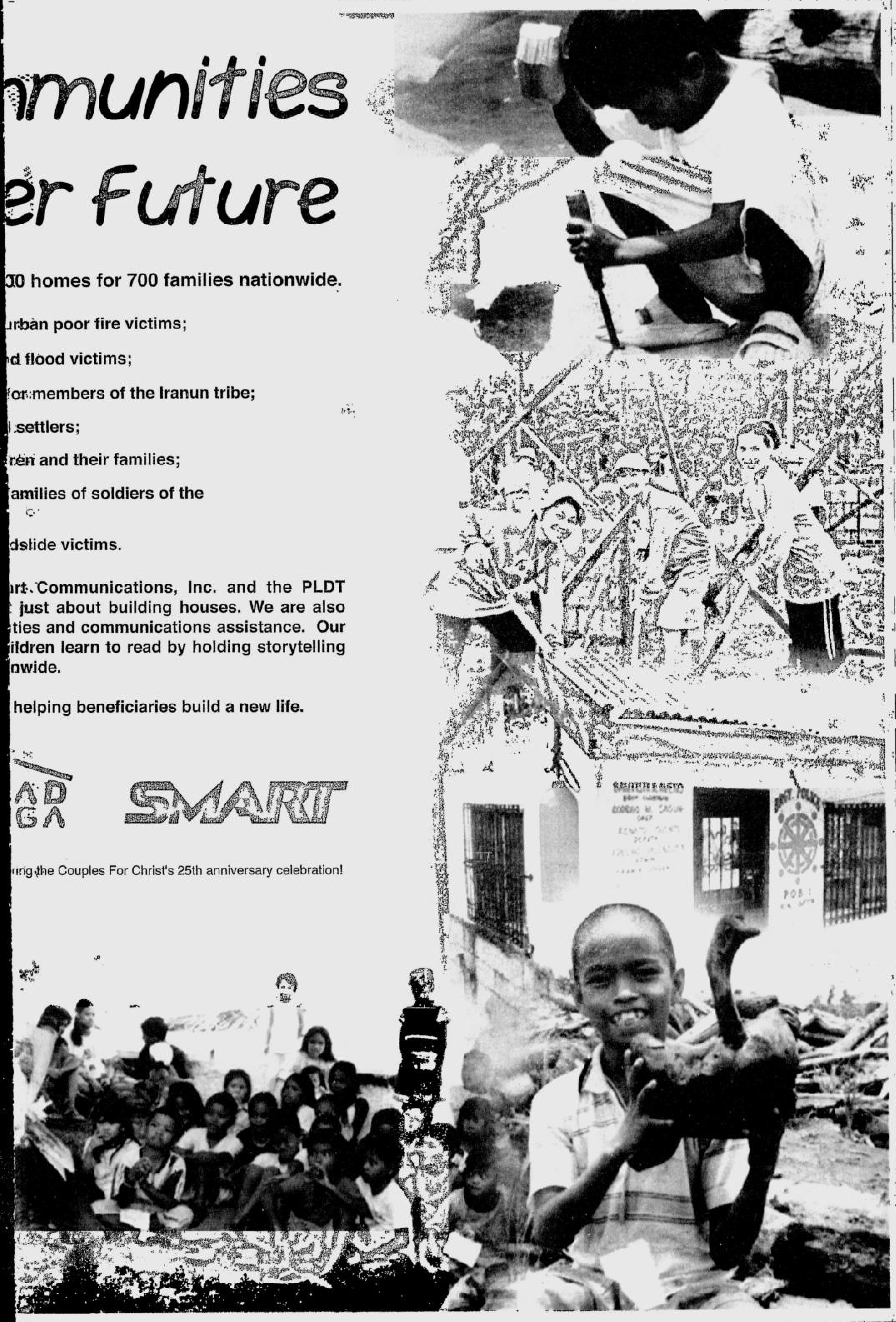
Rustan's

Couples can go to any Rustan's branch and sign up at the bridal registry office where they will be assisted by bridal consultants. The list of their gift preferences will then be presented to inquiring guests, to assist them in choosing a gift to buy. Although couples can choose items to suit their lifestyle, they are encouraged not to forget the basics for the home—dinnerware, glassware, flatware, etc. Couples can update their list anytime, and can change duplicate items.

Bonus: Couples can look forward to a more enhanced registry experience in Rustan's after it relaunches the service in July, to be called "Rustan's Weddings and Beyond." The service will then also cover anniversaries, debuts and showers.

Tomlinson and Raffles Fine Arts

The Tomlinson Collection Manila specializes in classic Chinese antique furniture, Southeast Asia Buddhist sculptures, Tibetan antique furniture and other Asian works of art. Couples can visit Tomlinson and Raffles Fine Arts, choose the pieces they want and leave their contact information at the store. Top picks are functional items— wedding cabinets, armchairs and coffee tables. Exchanges are allowed within 15 days of purchase, and couples can add to their list anytime.



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ring the Couples For Christ's 25th anniversary celebration!

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BEDTIME STORY. Bed and linen set by VTX from India. Jenny wears floral crinkle satin dress by Jessica and strappy cocktail sandals in calf leather by Kenneth Cole. Buzzie wears casual suit in linen and cotton over dress shirt in cotton, both by Springfield; parchemin trousers by Lacoste; and Cairo shoes in calf leather by Salvatore Ferragamo.

HAVE FUN. Take it easy. You have the rest of your lives to make the marriage work. Have it in full color with these fun towels for starters.

Doorway to heaven

May your first home lead you to a lifetime of marital bliss!

Text by AA Patawaran
Photos by Wawi Navarozza

A FEW DAYS BEFORE bankers Buzzie Ona and Jennifer Maloles tied the knot, they had quite a preview of what it was like to fuse their two lives together under one roof. Thanks to their bridal registry and the INQUIRER, they spent a few hours at the home department of Rustan's in Makati making believe they were home at last as husband and wife.

Two people, one life

Specially set up for their preview were a conjugal bed, a cozy sofa, a table for two, and a kitchen where Jenny wishes to have more of her Wharton graduate of a husband, who spent many years working for Chase Manhattan and subsisting on Big Macs in his New York apartment.

"The wedding preparation has been a good enough preview," says Buzzie, divulging intense arguments over the 1,001 kinks to iron out for the wedding, including such seemingly inconsequential details as the borders on their invitation.

"He's exaggerating," argues Jenny coolly. "That's just part of the game."

Thankfully, Buzzie and Jenny have spent many years trying each other out. They met in 2000, when, as an officemate, she found him conceited, too serious with work. Smitten by her girl-next-door appeal, Buzzie, however, immediately wooed her. After six years and many a UAAP game where they sat next to each other, sometimes rooting for opposite teams, Buzzie and Jenny are one. They took their vows on June 17 at the National Shrine of the Sacred Heart in Makati and celebrated the union with a ballroom full of family and friends at the Manila Polo Club.

At the moment, the newlyweds are in New York for a three-week-long honeymoon. When they come home, sometime in July, an empty two-bedroom apartment in Pasig will be waiting and so will begin the long process of building their life together.

As a gift to the newlyweds, INQUIRER gathered wedded couples Manny and Linda Gamboa, Dave and Berna Puyat, and Richie and Gina Garcia to share some precious advice on the conjugal home and the married life.

His and hers

For the Gamboas, home is not so much a physical space as a life well and wisely lived together.

"Think of it as a long-term investment in terms of affection and material things," says Manny Gamboa, a retired San Miguel Corporation executive, who now dabbles in painting, with New York shows to boot. No wonder remembering marital milestones is among his recommendations. "Be thoughtful," he advises.

His wife, Linda Gamboa, executive director of the Advertising Foundation of the Philippines, has had the honor of sharing with him a home blessed with three children as well as great bundles of joy, a total of four grandchildren and counting.

Linda believes breathing space is indispensable. "One must always be able to enjoy one's interests alone," she says.

Richie and Gina Garcia seem to have stumbled upon the secret so quickly, after barely two years of marriage. "It's important to designate spaces," says Gina, a child psychologist and educator. "Richie can't live without his airsoft guns, his laptop, his music, so he has his own area with a desk in which to indulge himself."

Designating space is also effective for lawyer Dave Puyat and Berna, his wife of nearly 12 years. "Our dressing room is his and hers," cites Berna, deputy cabinet secretary under the Office of the President of the Philippines. "Dave can mess up the dressing room as long as it's on his side."

Bed of roses

The bed is the most important piece of furniture in the conjugal home. "Take time to discuss sleeping habits and preferences before purchasing your first bed," Gina says. When choosing the conjugal bed, sit, jump, lie down on the mattresses as you check out their size, material, thickness, and type. "I got used to a solid, firm bed while Richie got used to spring," recounts Gina. "So we got a thick mattress to give me the support I wanted and allow Richie to bounce or sink."

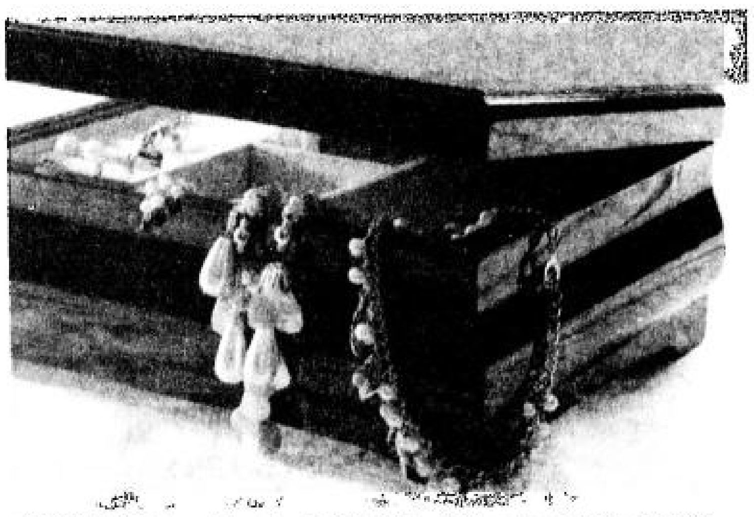
Dave and Berna also consider the bed the epicenter of their home, where all four members of their family feel completely safe and carefree. "There's nothing quite like Sundays," beams Dave, "with all of us piled on the bed, each doing their own thing—reading or watching TV—and yet somehow bonding with each other." But he has a practical tip to new husbands like Buzzie: "Don't let the kids get used to sleeping with you.. It kills those spontaneous [romantic] moments."

On the conjugal bed Berna has also had an epiphany. "I used to think couples who have a fight should always kiss and make up before going to sleep," she says. "Now I believe a good night's sleep puts things into perspective. Dave and I even forget we are fighting when we wake up in the morning!"

DOORWAY/ C7

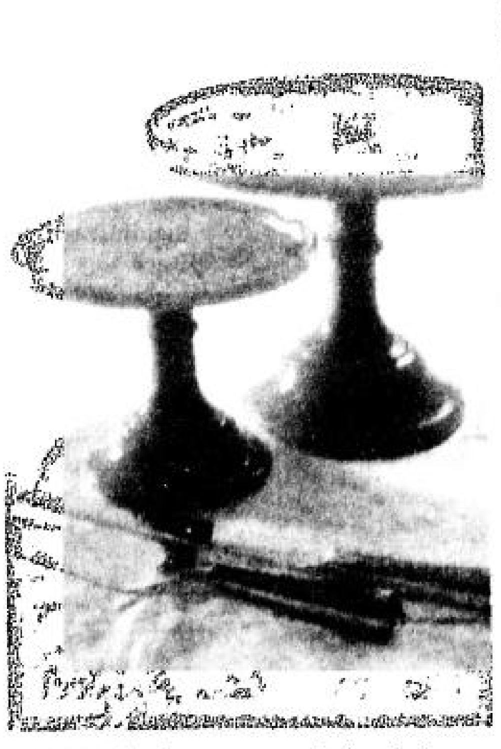
LABOR OF LOVE. Modular kitchen by Siematic; Subzero refrigerator by Wolf. She wears smart-casual dress in polyester by Laundry. He wears Equal Signs dress shirt by Kenneth Cole and classic denim by Burberry.

LOOK forward to lasting happiness. Invest in good china. One dinner set is enough for now. Like your marriage, it is for keeps.

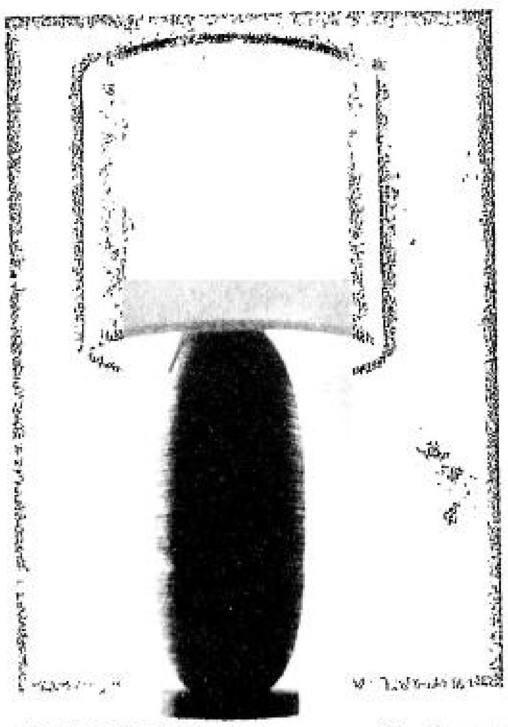


COURTSHIP should not end with "I Do." Occasionally, sweep the wife off her feet with priceless gifts. Why not start with this jewelry box, where she can keep all the tokens of your affection.

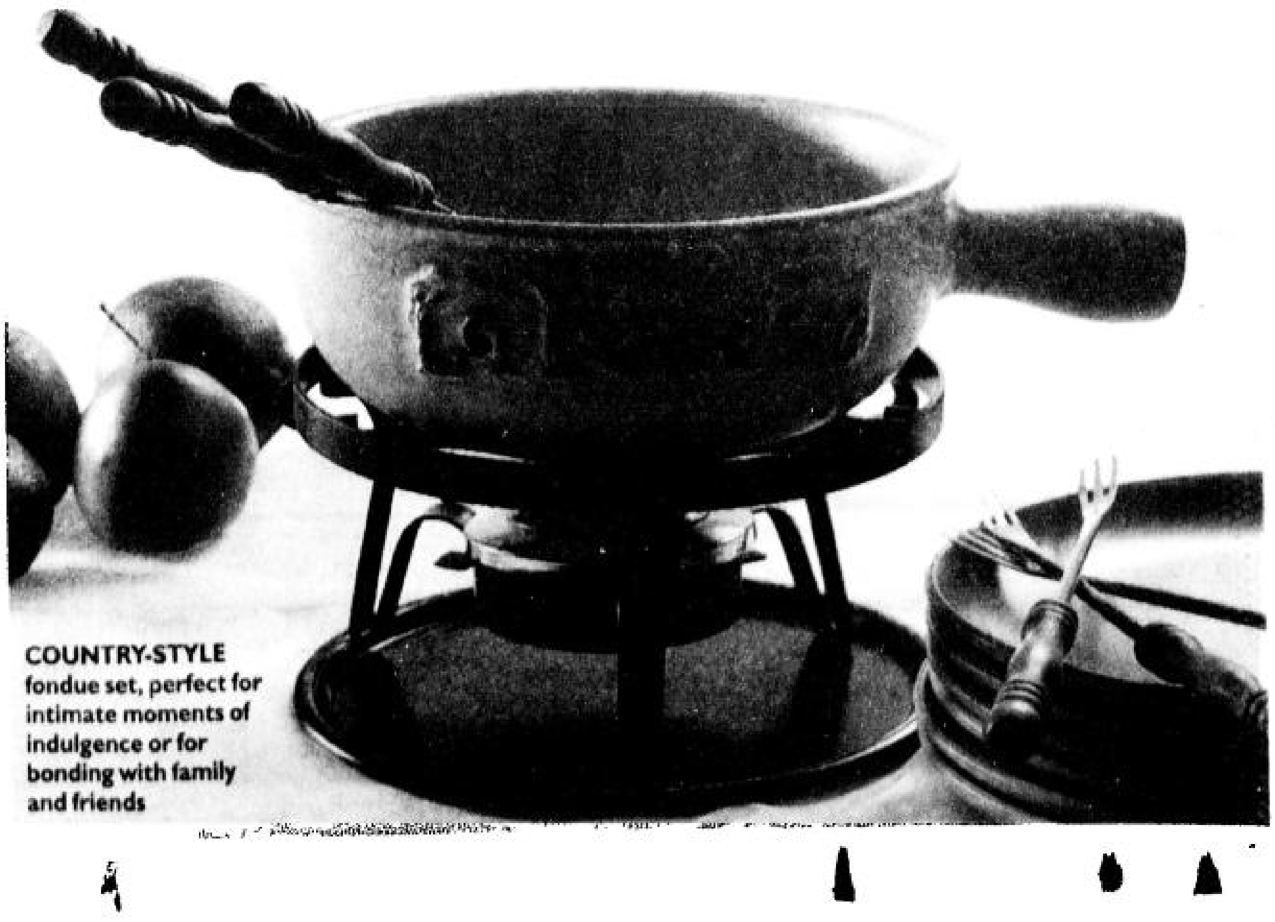
VILLEROY and Boch dinner set, Reed and Barton cutlery set, Queen Anne candleholder, and Luigi Bormioli glasses with coasters. She wears castle thick poplin casual top by Jessica and plaid linen skirt by Burberry. He wears business suit in wool, polyester, and spandex by Springfield; peppermint shirt by Lacoste; and classic denim by Burberry.



COLORFUL cake trays come in handy for entertaining needs.



THE BEDROOM is the sanctuary, soft and warm as lamplight emanating from this functional yet decorative piece of stylized rubber.



COUNTRY-STYLE fondue set, perfect for intimate moments of indulgence or for bonding with family and friends

THE ADVISERS: (clockwise from bottom left) Richie and Gina Garcia, married Dec. 30, 2004; Manny and Linda Gamboa, married June 6, 1967; and Dave and Berna Puyat, married Oct. 8, 1994

Doorway to heaven

THE NEWLYWEDS. Buzzie and Jenny Ona, married on June 17 at the National Shrine of the Sacred Heart. Fully upholstered, English-inspired sofa by Ethan Allen at Rustan's Home

From page C6

Clutter crisis

Once you move in together, expect clutter. As Gina puts it: "Your partner is bringing with him or with her a life's worth of stuff." Her trick turned out to be quite a therapy. "I had to go through my stuff, remembering all the good and bad associated with it and deciding whether to keep it, throw it out, or give it away," she recalls. "It made it clearer to me that I wanted Richie in my future."

Nevertheless, clutter may be inevitable. For Richie and Gina, form and function came to the rescue. "I stacked large CD boxes on top of each other to double as my night table, for instance," says Richie, an eye doctor who has a sizeable CD collection.

Dave and Berna, both pack rats, simply made room for clutter. "Just make sure your architect includes an attic in the house plans," quips Dave. Still, to reduce the mess, they have resolved to throw or give something away every time they buy something new.

The toothpaste tube is always part of a couple's story. A tube "Squeeze-It" solved the problem for Gina. "You clamp it onto the toothpaste tube to squeeze all the air out," she beams, "so it doesn't matter anymore if you squeeze from the bottom or the middle."

For Berna, whose husband is in the habit of brushing his teeth while in the shower, the solution is simpler: "I always buy two tubes of toothpaste. So even if his toothpaste is always open, I don't really care."

Indeed, a marriage is a bed of roses, albeit with thorns. "It's a beautiful thing when a couple becomes one, especially in their mutual decisions," Dave says. "Sadly, it's as rare as a good Pinoy movie." His advice to the newlyweds is to always seek a middle ground. "Even if issues seem unimportant, they tend to accumulate," he cautions. "And as the years pass, what seemed trivial is now a ground for separation." It is a matter of acceptance, according to Berna: "Don't expect your man to change just because he put a ring on your finger. You just have to make the best of what you have."

Long and lasting love

For Manny and Linda, who celebrated their 39th anniversary last June 6, marriage is now beyond differences over food or furniture, although they have over the past few years built a second nest on a secluded island in Romblon. Manny's advice to the groom is to be transparent: "Be consistent and predictable on recurring issues. A change will require explanation and lead to an argument." Linda's advice to the bride, on the other hand, is to be more open to and approving of her husband: "Listen to his views. Learn to give way to his priorities."

With such precious advice, indeed, gleaned from many years of commitment, may the first home of Buzzie and Jenny and other couples planning to follow their path lead to an eternity of love and laughter!

E-mail the author at aapatawaran@yahoo.com

A LITTLE BIT OF PRIVACY. No matter how intimate you have become, let each other have some time alone. In many cases, the bathroom is a refuge, particularly for women. Accessorize it with this bathroom set in bronze finish.

2006 DISCOVER HONG KONG YEAR
"At the Hong Kong Shopping Festival, everyone is a shopaholic!"
2006 DISCOVER HONG KONG YEAR
HONG KONG. LIVE IT. LOVE IT!
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HONG KONG

Get ready for the ultimate shopping extravaganza at the **Hong Kong Shopping Festival** from **24 June** to **31 August, 2006.**

The diverse shopping experiences that offer endless variety and stylish trends are a delight for the whole family. Discover everything you desire from great bargain hunts to top famous brands. With fabulous discounts and superb services, you and your family will find that Hong Kong truly is the shopping mecca of the world.

With late night shopping and dining, participating stores and restaurants will stay open till 10pm or later, so the entire family can indulge in longer hours of shopping. The shopping and dining experiences will bring you even more surprises with a chance to win fantastic prizes from the **Hong Kong Shopping Festival Lucky Draw.**

In-between the shopping, your family can take a stroll over to the piazzas at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre and feast their eyes on the nightly **multimedia water show – Aqua Fantasia.**

Be sure to get your **Bonus Guide** containing loads of extra shopping and dining offers at any of the in-town HKTB Visitor Information & Services Centres. Don't forget to visit the new mini-website at **DiscoverHongKong.com** for the latest trends and hot items plus fabulous offers from participating merchants of the **Hong Kong Shopping Festival.**

There's no better time to visit and discover everything this city has to offer! Besides exciting new attractions, mega events and an incredible array of international cuisine, Hong Kong has a number of educational attractions for children like museums and theme parks such as the newly opened **Hong Kong Wetland Park**. So start planning today. Visit the **Hong Kong Shopping Festival**. And watch your family become a bunch of shopaholics!

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Weddings and wish lists

By Pam Pastor

IN LOIS LOWRY'S BOOK "Anastasia at This Address," the bride and groom faced a dilemma. They received way too many woks from their wedding guests. How many Chinese cooking vessels does one couple need?

But thanks to bridal registry, today's couples no longer have to deal with similar predicaments.

Designed by department stores, the bridal registry is a system that allows an engaged couple to create a wish list of items. Wedding guests can then visit the store to select their gifts from the couple's list. The system benefits both the couple and the guests.

Bennette Rana, who runs Weddingsatwork.com with her husband John, counts the advantages of having a bridal registry. "It's free and there's nothing to lose if you register. A bridal registry would help the couple get the gifts they truly want. It saves the guests from guessing what the couple prefers."

Bennette and John registered with Rustan's Department Store, SM Department Store and Artfab when they got married in 1998.

Today, aside from department stores (SM no longer offers the service), a number of smaller shops and specialty outlets have their own bridal registry systems, with their own perks and bonuses for the couples.

If you're getting married soon, visit the following places. They might just hold the gifts of your dreams.

DINING room set from Borders (tel. 8932905, 8932908)

NEWPORT bedroom from Ethan Allen (tel. 6348587)

Signing up at these places makes gift-giving—and receiving—a breeze

Avant Abenson

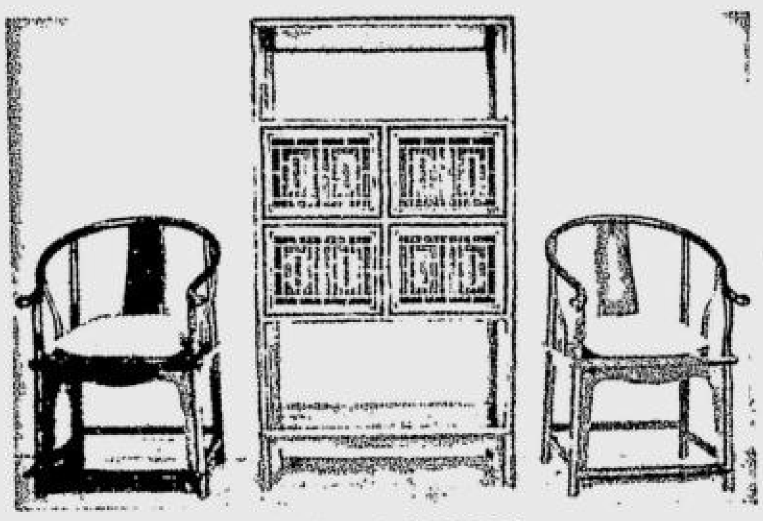
Avant's sales personnel will assist the couple as they apply and choose products they want. Avant has a tracking system that ensures that couples wouldn't end up with several of the same item. Top picks are entertainment products and kitchen appliances. Couples can add to their list anytime.

Bonus: Avant provides gift cards that can be attached to the invitation. When guests visit the store and present the card, they can get discounts.

Crossings Department Store

Crossings sets its service apart by allowing you to register online and create your wish list by browsing its website (www.crossings.com.ph). Guests can then log on to the website and reserve the gifts they want to get for you before going to the store to pick it up. But you can drop by the store and sign up there, and you can also update your list anytime, whether online or at the store (either Shangri-La or Quezon Avenue branch). At Crossings, the choices go beyond stuff for the house—couples can even include luggage and lingerie in their list. Nel Castillo, a buyer for Crossings, says that the first things guests buy are the small kitchen appliances. Because a lot of newlyweds move into small condominiums, Crossings also offers made-to-order furniture to match the couple's unit size and color theme. In the unlikely chance that there are duplicates, couples are allowed to exchange the items within a month after their wedding.

Bonus: Guests enjoy a five- to -ten-percent discount and free gift wrapping when they purchase items from your list. And in case the couple doesn't receive everything on their list, the discount is also available up to two months after the wedding so they can purchase the rest of the items they want.


SIMPLE elegance from Tomlinson (tel. 8909302)

Borders

One of Makati's best-kept secrets, Borders is home to world-renowned furniture, accessories and houseware. It's been running its bridal registry service for the past five years. Couples can visit the store and sign up for the registry, check on it anytime, add new items to their list and get notified when purchases are made. Borders also created a Group Gifting system which allows friends and family to make partial contributions toward a certain gift item. The store takes care of the gift wrap-

WEDDINGS/ C4

[illegible]

Tips from the experts and from the Lifestyle Section

WEDDING WEBSITES SAY THE SAME THING—your gift registry must never be mentioned in your invitation.

While some etiquette experts will allow inserts to be slipped into the envelopes, they all agree that the best way would be to create a wedding website and mention your registry there, relay the news at your bridal shower or ask your parents and maid of honor to help spread the word.

There is no right number of stores you can choose for your bridal registry. Make your decision depending on your guests, their locations and budgets. Some couples choose between three to five stores for their registry.

There's no right time frame, either. Go with what feels right. Couples generally sign up between three to six months before the wedding date.

Bennette Rana of Weddingsatwork.com suggests that couples should go and visit their chosen stores before the scheduled gift selection.

"Orient yourself on what's available. This will save your guests the trouble of changing their minds for nicer items found later on the side of the store."

Also, "If you think that most of your guests are web-savvy, you may also consider having an online gift registry at sites like Amazon.com and Theknot.com."

Xandra Ramos of Crossings says, "They should give their guests a wide range of options. There should be more gift choices than guests. And don't forget the fun stuff—fondue sets, barware. It doesn't have to be formal always. For dinnerware, you can choose a basic color and just change the accessories."

According to Dhaize Lacson of Gourdo's, couples should think of their guests' budgets.

"Sometimes the guests can't afford what's on the wish list. You can break down the items. Instead of asking for a set of 12 plates, you can choose three sets of four plates."

Borders' Liane Bautista says, "It's better if they come as a couple so it's also what the guy likes, not just what the girl likes. And get a whole range of items."

According to Geena Llamanzares of Play and Display, "Wish-list items as a whole should be well-coordinated with each other in theme and in hue to avoid a 'haphazardly chosen' look on collection of pieces."

And the people of Avant say that the couple should "be ready to provide the dimensions of your home to make sure you choose the right products that will fit your living space."

Pam Pastor

CROSSINGS Shangri-La Plaza Mall • Quezon Avenue www.crossings.com.ph
THE NEW CROSSINGS
WHATYOUHAVEINMIND
Create your wedding wish list at www.crossings.com.ph and get a 5-10% discount for your guests
Discount is available up to 2 months after your wedding day so you have time to complete your list

Sunday LIFESTYLE

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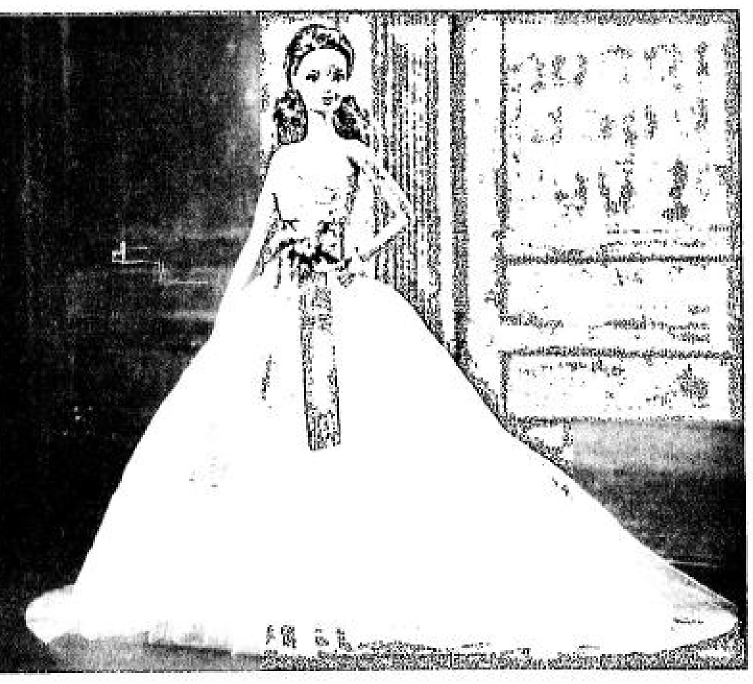
inquirer life name/age/city/message to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Monique Lhuillier designs Bride Barbie

T'NT TRENDS & TRENDINGS

Anton San Diego

MONIQUE LHUILLIER ADDED another feather to her cap when she collaborated with Mattel to create Bride Barbie. She joins an illustrious list of international designers who have created one-of-a-kind creations for every girl's favorite doll-maker.



MONIQUE'S modern, elegant design on Bride Barbie.

Monique's Bride Barbie wears an off-white bodice and full tulle skirt with a sable-colored satin sash to accentuate the waist, topped off with a rhinestone brooch. It is accentuated with diamond stud earrings and ring. It's a modern contemporary design befitting every modern-day princess.

The Bride Barbie is currently on sale at $140 at Monique Lhuillier boutiques and can be bought at www.BarbieCollector.com. Starting Aug. 1, another version will be available at FAO Schwartz.

More news about Monique. Her first Philippine fashion show will be happening this year on Nov. 12 at the Makati Shangri-La Hotel. It is touted as one of the biggest events of the year and has the whole town buzzing!

The event will be a dinner gala show with a bonus, none other than **Lea Salonga** (Monique did her bridal gown as well) will be performing. Lea will be flying in from the US for the gala. Monique will present her much praised Spring/Summer 2006 collection.

Proceeds will go to Asia Society's programs for young Filipino leadership and cultural diversity education and to Bantay Bata 163's education and care programs for abused children.

Chairs for the benefit are **Imelda Cojuangco, Doris Magsaysay Ho, Gina Lopez, Lizzie Zobel** and **Mons Tantoco.**

For tickets, call 8108983, 752-4374 or 7519851.

Instant classic—Ralph Lauren's Big Pony. It is one of the year's hottest looks, so hot that it has reached instant cult status as the shirt for men and women.

Another way to see how in-demand it is, go to Greenhills and you will see it sold in the *tiangges*. No matter how you view the big pony logo (some people find the logo too much) it's the new status symbol that conveys, "I am too cool, too chic and too in for words," it really is an instant classic hit that goes from boardroom, rave halls to the beach.

The big pony shirt was introduced during the US Open tennis tournament when Ralph Lauren collaborated with the United States Tennis Association. He is scoring another coup with his tie-up with the most sacred of tennis tournaments, Wimbledon. This month you will see ball boys and girls and umpires sporting the navy-blue shirts and shorts, exchanging them for the trademark green grass-blending ones. A first in their illustrious history!

Must-watch movie—"The Devil Wears Prada" and "Superman." "Devil Wears Prada," the film adaptation of the international best-selling book of the same title, delves into the glossy, acerbic and superficial world of fashion magazines. The movie's tag-line is "the boss from hell," and answers the question posed by every person who dreams of the glamorous and dreamlike world of publishing and fashion, "Would you sacrifice your soul to work for a glossy?" I will take the

MONIQUE/ D3

LHUILLIER'S first Philippine fashion show is on Nov. 12, at the Makati Shangri-La Hotel.

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MIRINDA

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SCRATCH N' PLAY

Buy any Slurpee®*, Gulp®, or Pepsi product** and get a scratch card for a chance to win 1 of 30 Sony PSPs and other SUPERMAN RETURNS™ premium items!

For any purchase of a Gulp®, Slurpee® (*Slurpee® 178ml is not included as a participating product in the promo), or any Pepsi product (**Pepsi, Diet Pepsi, Pepsi Max, Pepsi X, Mirinda, 7up, Diet 7up, Mug, Mountain Dew), the customer is given a scratch card. If all the prizes in the three boxes are the same, the customer gets that particular prize. Prizes can be any Superman ReturnsTM premium item (watches, cellphone straps, stickers) or a 237ml Slurpee®.

Prizes can be claimed at the store where the purchase was made. Prizes are transferable but not convertible to cash.

Each scratch card also enables the customer to join the raffle for a chance to win 1 of 30 Sony Playstation Portables.

To join the raffle, customers must completely fill out the raffle coupon portion of the card and drop in the drop box located in the store.

Deadline for entries is on July 25, 2006 at 11:59 p.m.

Promo runs in all 7-eleven outlets nationwide from June 14 to July 25, 2006.

Draws will be held in the presence of representatives of DTI and Philippine Seven Corporation at Convenience Distribution, Inc., No. 8001 F. Legaspi St., Brgy. Maybunga, Pasig City, on August 4, 2006 at 3:00 p.m.

Winners will be notified via registered mail from an authorized representative of Philippine Seven Corporation with details on claiming the prize.

Prizes must be claimed within sixty (60) days from date of notification. Unclaimed prizes after the said period will be forfeited.

Employees of PSC (7-eleven) including its franchisees and employees, and Pepsi Cola Products Philippines, their printing and advertising agencies, including their relatives up to the second degree of consanguinity and affinity are disqualified from joining the promo.

LEGENDARY PICTURES WARNER BROS. PICTURES

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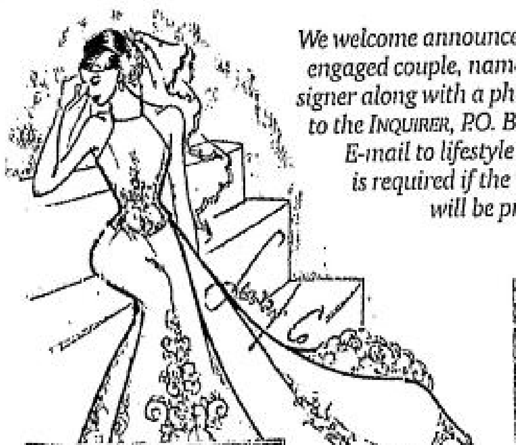
www.supermanreturns-asia.com
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1714 Series of 2006

MAG 7-ELEVEN MUNA

Milestones

We welcome announcements of weddings and engagements. Submit names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, and gown designer along with a photo of the couple and a sketch of the bridal gown, if any, to the Inquirer, *P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City. E-mail to lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph. A photo of the bride and groom is required if the wedding has already taken place. Announcements will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the senders.*

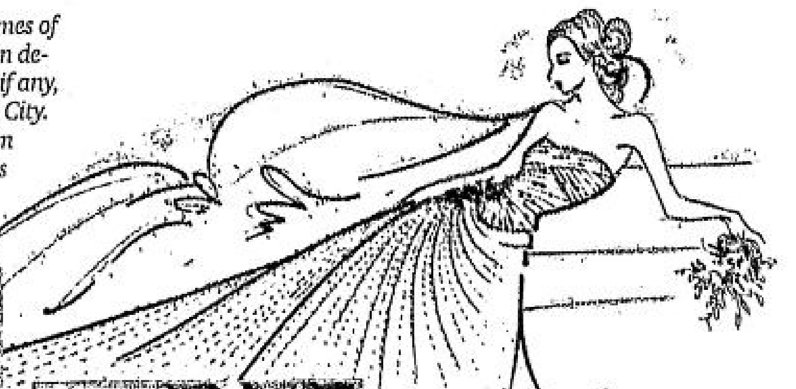


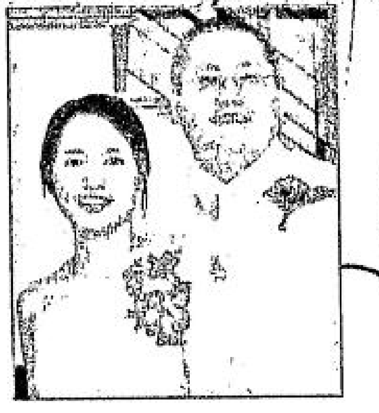
TIO-SY

Juvilyn Tio, daughter of **Juanito** and **Violeta Tio**, will exchange vows with **Chester Sy**, son of **Jesus** and **Violeta Sy**, today (June 25), at New Millennium Church, Manila. The bride will wear an off-white duchess-satin haltered top with semi A-line skirt and detachable three-meter train, designed by **Leonard Co.**

PADACA-SAN JUAN

Engineer **Frederick "Pads" M. Padaca**, son of **Francisco** (deceased) and **Aida** (née Miguel) **Padaca**, recently wed **Kathleen Anne "Cookie" B. San Juan**, daughter of engineer **Ricky** and **Minnie** (née Bañez) **San Juan**, at the San Nicolas de Tolentino Parish, Congressional Subdivision, QC. Reception-dinner was held at the Celebrity Club, Capitol Hills, QC. The gowns of the bride and her entourage, the *piña barong* of the groom, and the gowns and *barong* of the couple's parents were designed by **Michelle Lim** of Mercer and Sari-Sari.





CHUA-AVERIA

Martini Chua, son of **Bartolome** and **Rosalinda Chua**, recently exchanged vows with **Belen Averia**, daughter of **José** and **Rosita Averia**, at Santuario de San José. The bride wore an ecru organdy pleated geometric bustier and bouffants draped duchess sateen skirt, beaded in alternate lines of crystal-cut glass and Swarovski stones, designed by **Leonard Co.**

FERRER-GALANG

Mario Ian Ferrer, son of **Pedro** and **Emma Ferrer**, recently wed **Rhea Anne Galang**, daughter of **Virgilio** (deceased) and **Cayetana Galang**, at Santuario de San José, Greenhills East, Mandaluyong City. Reception was held at Pavillon A, Wack-Wack Golf and Country Club, Mandaluyong City. Wedding gown was designed by **Jayson Borja.**

ALQUIROS ANNIVERSARY

Guillermo "Willie" Alquiros and **Teresita "Teresing" Sainz** celebrated their golden wedding anniversary with a mass officiated by Fr. **Dave Concepcion** at the Manila Polo Club, Mckinley Road, Makati. With them are their sons **Filbert**, **Gerry**, **Andy**, **Guilly** and **Freddie. Alfie Lim** made the bride's gown.

FOFUE-TORRE

Josue Ferriol Fofue Jr., son of **Josue Sr.** and **Genoveva Fofue**, will wed **Lannie Banusan Torre**, daughter of SPO4 (Ret.) **Diosdado** and **Eunice Torre**, on June 29, 2 p.m., at Manila Center Seventh-day Adventist Church, corner D. Tuazon and Quezon Avenue, QC. Reception will follow at Gazebo Royale, Visayas Avenue, QC.

PONCE-PASTORAL

Eduardo Feligonio V. Ponce, son of **Feligonio** and **Teresita Ponce**, and **Thelma Fatima P. Pastoral**, daughter of **Prospero** and **Adelina Pastoral**, will exchange vows on June 28, at Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Tagaytay. Reception will be at Taal Vista Hotel. The bride will wear a fully beaded bustier two-piece gown with Swarovski crystal designed by **Linoi.**

AT THE medical mission

Reaching out to ‘

By Pinky Aunario
Contributor

BY THE NTH PATIENT, I DIDN'T BOTHER anymore to explain that I was not a doctor. I took the "*reseta*" from a mother carrying her 2-month-old baby with one arm and the other holding the hand of a toddler with a runny nose. After much deliberation with the other members of the pharmacy team, Grace and Jaymee, we decided that the handwriting on the prescription paper said "multivitamins," although the writing very much read like "chicken loopyhead." So there I was, an English major under a *caimito* tree, standing for hours on end and combing through the remaining boxes of cotrimoxazole, ambroxol and loratidines.

It was a sunny afternoon and there were still about 50 patients left after a morning of over a hundred of provincial folk waiting their turn for a free medical checkup or for a free tooth extraction..

Through the suggestion of the Joint Task Force Malampaya, we held the medical-dental missions with tutorial and catechism classes in Barangays Bucana and Baratuan in El Nido, Palawan. There are approximately 1,000 families in each barangay, making them the two largest in El Nido. But because of the inaccessibility of these barangays, they can't get any health assistance.

"The poor, the sick and the children are God's favorites," said St. Josemaría, the founder of Opus Dei. "So, we should do what we can to help them live a dignified life." During his younger years as a priest, St. Josemaría regularly visited hospitals and shanties to give anointing of the sick, catechism or just plain solace to those who needed it. He believed that Opus Dei was born through their prayers and sacrifice.

Moved by this teaching, Bishop Alvaro del Portillo (1914-1994), St. Josemaría's first successor as Prelate of Opus Dei, upon seeing the slums of Manila

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100g Litro Pack plus a specially-designed pitcher for just P39. And when you need to re-mix, P14.90 per Litro Refill Pack does the job. Go mom, start your mix now! *Suggested retail price

A medical-dental mission to Palawan is a practice in Catholic charity

God's favorites'

during his visit in 1987, encouraged the members of Opus Dei to do something for the poor in the Philippines. So, some female doctors and dentists, together with their friends, put up the Family Cooperation Health Services Foundation, Inc., focusing on primary health training.

This nonprofit organization began in Barrio Tulo in Calamba, training 18 community health workers. The five-year primary health-care project included a Tuberculosis Control Program and Nutrition Information and Education, helping at least 600 people out of a total population of 2,232.

Family Cooperation has four primary health-care programs in two barangays in Las Piñas and a couple more in Muntinlupa. The program includes four-hour, once-a-week classes for barangay health workers and mothers. The foundation also holds monthly medical-dental missions in Rizal, Calamba, Batangas, Tatalon and Quezon City. It plans to have programs soon in Bataan, Bulacan and Quezon.

All this generosity comes from a container van of an office along Maria Clara Street in Rizal Village in Muntinlupa City. The programs are undertaken with the help, for example, of the Pilipinas Shell Foundation, Inc., engineer Erning Javion Fernandez and other donors. Donors are needed since, in my case, I could only cover my travel expenses to Palawan and back. If I had to pay for my living expenses, then I might have had to swim my way to Palawan and back.

So there I was trying to find multivitamins under the *caimito* tree. But in vain. So I turned to the mother with the baby and the toddler with a runny nose and told her, *"Bili na lang po kayo sa botika. Ubos na po kasi eh."*

Then she walked away with a dejected face that I wanted to go back to Manila and buy a whole drugstore. Then go back to Palawan with all the goods.

By way of swimming, of course.

Boyfriend departs without a by-your-leave

EMILY'S POST

Emily A. Marcelo

DEAR EMILY,

I have a boyfriend for almost a year now. All of a sudden he left for Hong Kong without telling me.

I only learned he was leaving when he called me from the departure area of the airport just before he boarded the plane. He only said he was Hong Kong-bound to look for greener pastures.

What will I do? Should I still care and wait for him? He called me from Hong Kong to say he really loved me. Should I still believe him? How can I let him go?

VANISSA

You're in a bit of a fix here. He tells you he loves you, yet he ups and goes abroad with nary a word of warning except at the last moment when he is about to board a plane.

And then, he calls you from abroad and says again that he loves you.

Unless he is a guy who loves to surprise people and wants you to scream in delight when he finds the green pasture he is searching for—for you and him in Hong Kong—then I suppose leaving without consulting you would be okay.

This is a case of the end justifying the means, as the saying goes.

But if he only wants to get away from you to escape the song and dance of a tearjerker movie, then, what he did is a no-no, considering how he has professed his love for you time and again and again.

Give him a break. Give him a chance to prove this love he is harping on. Make him walk his talk.

See how sensitive he will be to your predicament. Watch for any deviation in his tone or his actions and see how your long-distance relationship with him plays out.

Will he make the saying "absence makes the heart grow fonder" a reality"?

Or will he change the last word to "colder... or wander, perhaps?"

E-mail the author at emarcelo@inquirer.com.ph, Subject: Lifestyle, or send your letters to INQUIRER. Listen to Ms Marcelo co-host the program "Kalikasan Vigilante," 7:15 p.m.-8:30 p.m.; Monday-Friday, on dwBR 104.3 FM.

Monique Lhuillier designs Bride Barbie

From page D1

fifth on that one!

Superman is everyone's favorite superhero. I remember as a child jumping off my cousin's roof thinking I was Superman, but I could also could have been the six-million-dollar man. Anyway the point is that I sprained my ankle and it hurt like mad!

"Superman" is set to be the biggest summer blockbuster, unless **Brandon Routh** the actor playing Superman, starts jumping on a couch and espouses Scientology.

After viewing the trailer, as much as the late **Christopher Reeve** was the Superman, Routh may just change our mind. And early reviews have critics raising their thumbs up!

Beauty breakthrough—Smart Lipo. Although this procedure has been in the Philippines since the early part of the year, it was not until a friend of mine underwent the procedure that I took notice. She had the procedure done at Dr. **Vicki Belo**'s clinic and she was ecstatic about it, so much so, that she has recommended it to a lot of people.

The procedure originated from Italy and uses a pulse laser system to dissolve and liquefy body fat. It's better than liposuction because it's less bloody and there is less pain and bruising. Recovery time is shorter as well. One can choose whether or not to suction out the fat (fat is eliminated by the body and results are seen in four months) or to have it suctioned off, which is far better.

Call Belo Medical Group helpdesk, 8442939, or email info@belomed.com

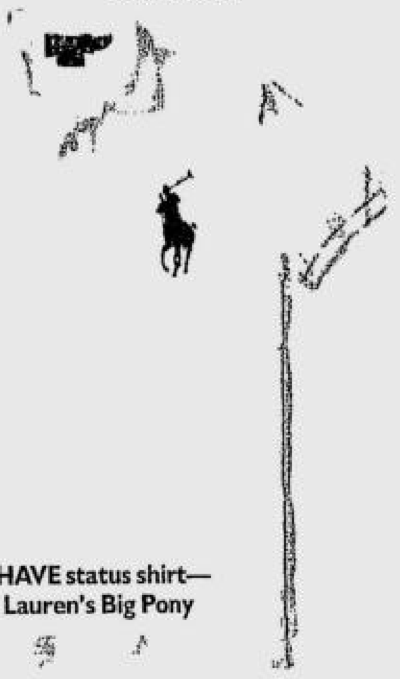
For babies only—"Fear Factor"-style toys. Once upon a time, baby toys were conventional, safe, and not to mention, cute and cuddly. We know times have changed, drastically. The newest toy phenomenon to hit Northern Europe is a set of bodily fluids (or solids).

Designed by Swedish designer Emma Megitt, Pee and Poo (yup, quite original!) answers the "taboos and hushed talk" regarding our bodily emissions in a comical, acceptable and even cuddly manner. Pee and Poo not only comes in adorable stuffed toys but also as children wear.

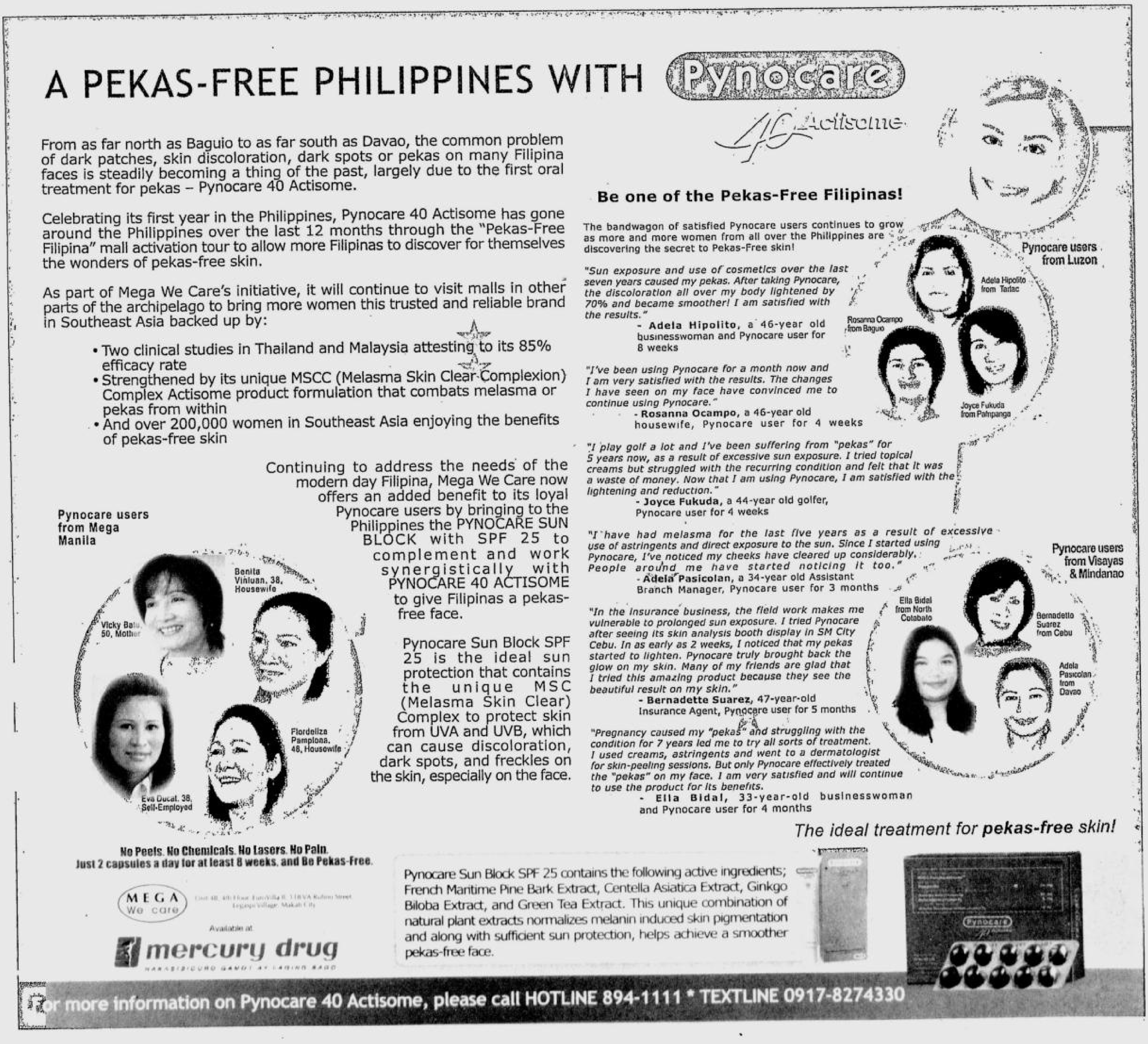
Random talks. The city is all abuzz about the Bench underwear show which will have not only celebrities and personalities parading their toned bodies but will have the Village People and Sister Sledge as guest performers. This is not a strictly Filipino affair since we hear Chinese journalists are invited as well, since Bench is hugely successful in China... Stylish homemakers have cause to celebrate with the opening of another high-quality furniture and fabrics store—KA from Spain. In Europe it is one of the leading retailers and has 450 stores in 42 countries, with the Philippine boutique being the first in Asia. Check out KA lifestyle boutique at Manansala Tower Building, Rockwell... Looking for great CD compilations, check out the "Chill & Easy," "Bossa & Easy," "Cool & Easy" and "Gentle & Easy" series in Music One, worth every cent... Set to sail soon, is one of Europe's premiere cruise liners, Costa Cruises, which will be launched in Hong Kong and Shanghai, at the end of the month. It is the first cruise ship allowed to set sail in China. Several notable personalities and socialites will be invited from all over Asia, we hear the selected individuals from the Philippines are Doris Magsaysay Ho, **Gina Lopez**, Lito and Kim Camacho, **Basil Ong**, Evelyn Forbes, **Mons Tantoco** and **Maurice Arcache.**

E-mail the author at antonsd@philtatler.com or antonsd@pldtdsl.net

"FEAR FACTOR"-STYLE TOYS—the cute and adorable, Pee and Poo



MUST-HAVE status shirt—Ralph Lauren's Big Pony


A PEKAS-FREE PHILIPPINES WITH Pynocare 40 Actisome

From as far north as Baguio to as far south as Davao, the common problem of dark patches, skin discoloration, dark spots or pekas on many Filipina faces is steadily becoming a thing of the past, largely due to the first oral treatment for pekas – Pynocare 40 Actisome.

Celebrating its first year in the Philippines, Pynocare 40 Actisome has gone around the Philippines over the last 12 months through the "Pekas-Free Filipina" mall activation tour to allow more Filipinas to discover for themselves the wonders of pekas-free skin.

As part of Mega We Care's initiative, it will continue to visit malls in other parts of the archipelago to bring more women this trusted and reliable brand in Southeast Asia backed up by:

- Two clinical studies in Thailand and Malaysia attesting to its 85% efficacy rate
- Strengthened by its unique MSCC (Melasma Skin Clear Complexion) Complex Actisome product formulation that combats melasma or pekas from within
- And over 200,000 women in Southeast Asia enjoying the benefits of pekas-free skin

Continuing to address the needs of the modern day Filipina, Mega We Care now offers an added benefit to its loyal Pynocare users by bringing to the Philippines the PYNOCARE SUN BLOCK with SPF 25 to complement and work synergistically with PYNOCARE 40 ACTISOME to give Filipinas a pekas-free face.

Pynocare Sun Block SPF 25 is the ideal sun protection that contains the unique MSC (Melasma Skin Clear) Complex to protect skin from UVA and UVB, which can cause discoloration, dark spots, and freckles on the skin, especially on the face.

Pynocare users from Mega Manila
Vicky Balu, 50, Mother
Benita Viniuan, 38, Housewife
Eva Ducat, 38, Self-Employed
Flordeliza Pamplona, 48, Housewife

No Peels. No Chemicals. No Lasers. No Pain.
Just 2 capsules a day for at least 8 weeks, and Be Pekas-Free.

MEGA We care

Available at
mercury drug

Be one of the Pekas-Free Filipinas!

The bandwagon of satisfied Pynocare users continues to grow as more and more women from all over the Philippines are discovering the secret to Pekas-Free skin!

"Sun exposure and use of cosmetics over the last seven years caused my pekas. After taking Pynocare, the discoloration all over my body lightened by 70% and became smoother! I am satisfied with the results."
- Adela Hipolito, a 46-year old businesswoman and Pynocare user for 8 weeks

"I've been using Pynocare for a month now and I am very satisfied with the results. The changes I have seen on my face have convinced me to continue using Pynocare."
- Rosanna Ocampo, a 46-year old housewife, Pynocare user for 4 weeks

"I play golf a lot and I've been suffering from "pekas" for 5 years now, as a result of excessive sun exposure. I tried topical creams but struggled with the recurring condition and felt that it was a waste of money. Now that I am using Pynocare, I am satisfied with the lightening and reduction."
- Joyce Fukuda, a 44-year old golfer, Pynocare user for 4 weeks

"I have had melasma for the last five years as a result of excessive use of astringents and direct exposure to the sun. Since I started using Pynocare, I've noticed my cheeks have cleared up considerably. People around me have started noticing it too."
- Adela Pasicolan, a 34-year old Assistant Branch Manager, Pynocare user for 3 months

"In the insurance business, the field work makes me vulnerable to prolonged sun exposure. I tried Pynocare after seeing its skin analysis booth display in SM City Cebu. In as early as 2 weeks, I noticed that my pekas started to lighten. Pynocare truly brought back the glow on my skin. Many of my friends are glad that I tried this amazing product because they see the beautiful result on my skin."
- Bernadette Suarez, 47-year-old Insurance Agent, Pynocare user for 5 months

"Pregnancy caused my "pekas" and struggling with the condition for 7 years led me to try all sorts of treatment. I used creams, astringents and went to a dermatologist for skin-peeling sessions. But only Pynocare effectively treated the "pekas" on my face. I am very satisfied and will continue to use the product for its benefits.
- Ella Bidal, 33-year-old businesswoman and Pynocare user for 4 months

Pynocare users from Luzon
Adela Hipolito from Tarlac
Rosanna Ocampo from Baguio
Joyce Fukuda from Pampanga

Pynocare users from Visayas & Mindanao
Ella Bidal from North Cotabato
Bernadette Suarez from Cebu
Adela Pasicolan from Davao

The ideal treatment for pekas-free skin!

Pynocare Sun Block SPF 25 contains the following active ingredients; French Maritime Pine Bark Extract, Centella Asiatica Extract, Ginkgo Biloba Extract, and Green Tea Extract. This unique combination of natural plant extracts normalizes melanin induced skin pigmentation and along with sufficient sun protection, helps achieve a smoother pekas-free face.

For more information on Pynocare 40 Actisome, please call HOTLINE 894-1111 * TEXTLINE 0917-8274330

THE BRIDE and the entourage with the designer

MODEL Jeng Cuyugan as the bride by Baddeo

Not your usual bridal entourage

THE BRIDE IS THE STAR OF HER wedding day. But that doesn't mean the entourage can't also stand out, as siblings Christine, Katkat and Christian Lim Napoles, along with Krisha Mae Almeda Sia, showed when they modeled for fashion designer Eddie Baddeo recently. They wore wedding entourage creations in striking colors such as plum burgundy, coral orange and strawberry red. The intimate bridal salon show was held at the C3 Events Place in Greenhills, San Juan. Image styling was done by Eric Maningat of Studio 546 and Chito Vecina did the photographs. Call 3715843 and 3719384.

Your dream wedding via credit card

FASHION DESIGNER Michelle Lim, the 35-year-old designer whose bridal and formal wear designs are among the most sought-after pieces from stores such as Sari-Sari and Rustan's, knows too well the pressure on couples when it comes to managing their wedding finances.

Michelle recommends that couples set their wedding budget first, as this is essential during wedding planning.

"What's difficult is the downpayment to suppliers, which couples are forced to make early on because prices may later go up," she says. As most wedding suppliers do not have the facility to accept credit-card payments, couples are forced to fork out cash.

Thankfully, the introduction of PayLite-By-Check makes it easier for couples to now tap their Citibank credit cards. PayLite-By-Check gives cardholders the option to request for a Manager's Check payable to any establishment. The check amount requested will then be charged to the cardholder's available credit line and he or she can choose to pay over three, six, nine, 12, 18 and 24 months.

"I know what couples go through when preparing for their dream wedding, and PayLite-By-Check will make budget planning easier and more affordable since you don't have to shell out cash all at one time," says Michelle.

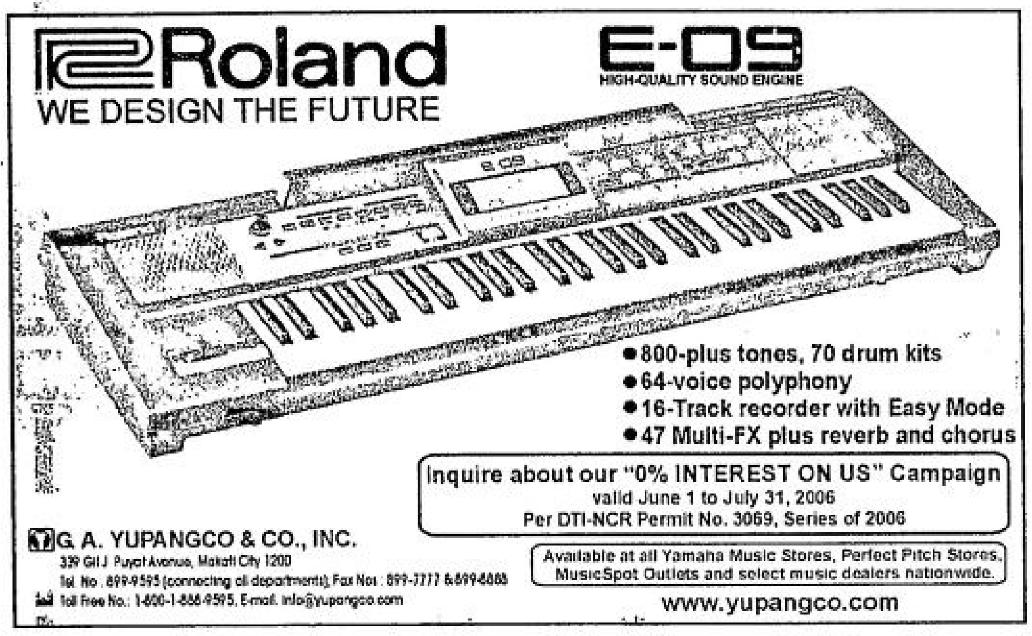
This is echoed by one of Michelle's clients, Cheryl Ann Martinez, who shares helpful advice to other brides-to-be.

The 26-year-old advertising account manager, who is set to tie the knot with her US-based fiancé Christian Muñoz in January, believes Citibank's PayLite-By-Check provides the best option for couples who don't want to be burdened with financial requirements.

"What makes this truly convenient for brides like me is that I can pay through PayLite's installment options. Plus, I can choose the most convenient payment scheme for me and the interest rates are much lower compared to other credit cards."

To avail of PayLite-By-Check, simply call 4233000 and when approved, Citibank will deliver the Manager's Check to your billing address for free. If you've paid already, just submit your official receipt and the Manager's Check will be issued payable to you.

As a special introductory offer, cardholders can enjoy 1.3 percent monthly add-on rate for 12 months valid until June 30 only. To know more about the benefits of PayLite-By-Check, call 4233000 now. Or you can log on to www.citibank.com.ph



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Text us your feedback:
Inquirer life name/age/city/message to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

Blue, blue, my world is blue

Manly blue it was since Father's Day should not have any other color. It was the day for the men of our lives

TESSA!

Tessa Prieto-Valdes

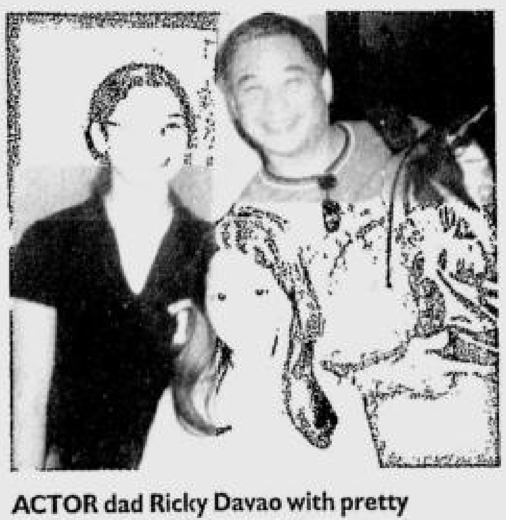
COLORS DEPICT THE VIbrancy of life and can express dramatic emotion from extreme joy to utter sadness. Although my eclectic mode is in living color, blue happens to be my favorite even as a child. I simply love all the hues of blue, from the color of a clear sky to the deep depths of navy. The gradations are endless and can go from a sweet periwinkle tone to a strong blue-gray shade.

In the corporate and retail worlds, colors are used for effective branding and name recall. Lately, I have been seeing blue all over the events I have been attending. On Father's Day last week, Sustagen Premium, with a brown-and-blue can, held a fun-filled celebration starting with brunch at Italianni's in Greenbelt, going on to a photo exhibit of fathers and ending with a private movie at MyCinema. As in all of energetic **Keren Pascual**'s events, exciting games and prizes were generously given away, this time care of Mead Johnson. All dads were pampered at F Salon while moms and kids looked for clues throughout the mall to find the perfect gift.

Pop Art, the photo exhibit, showcased captivating and heartwarming real photos of dads captured through the eyes of their children. It showed a more personal side to famous dads. The special bonds that tie fathers to their kids were seen through the photos along with touching bits of advice, all on display at Greenbelt 3. Sustagen Premium truly found a great way to promote their product to

BLUE/ E2

SUSTAGEN Group product manager Aleli Arcilla, supermodel Bianca Valerio and super dad Reuben



ACTOR dad Ricky Davao with pretty daughters Rikki Mae and Ara

Mekeni PICNIC Premium Hotdog

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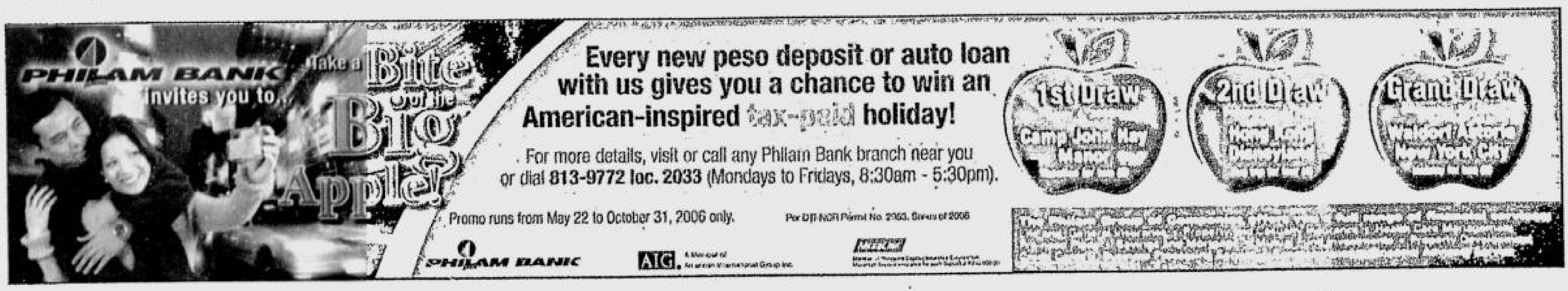

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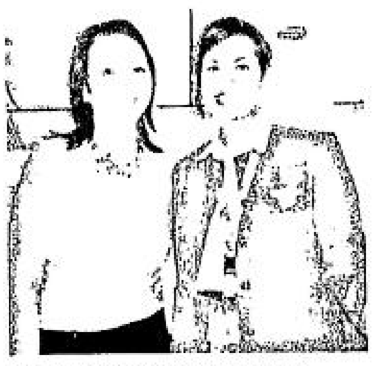
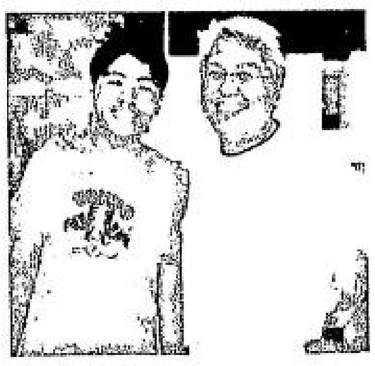

KLM ground services ladies Dindin Monserrate and Joan Doromal


MUSIC genius Ryan Cayabyab and son Thomas

KLM Special Services at Schiphol Airport Kitty Meyburg-van Loon and Marianne Rooth-Pieters

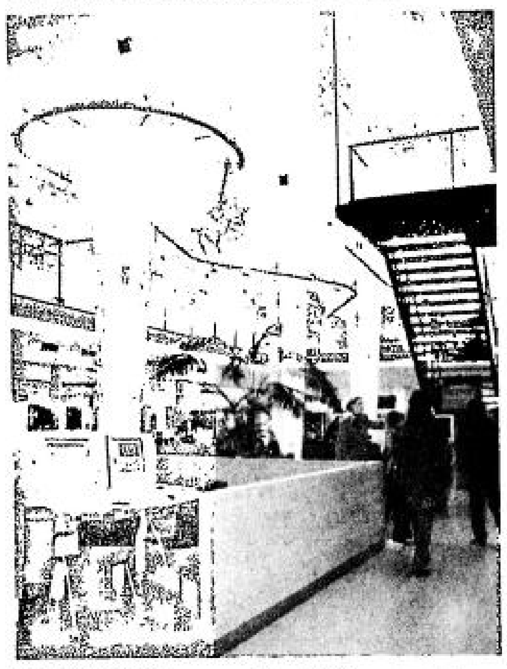
EVENT host Johnny Litton and Harry Limtong

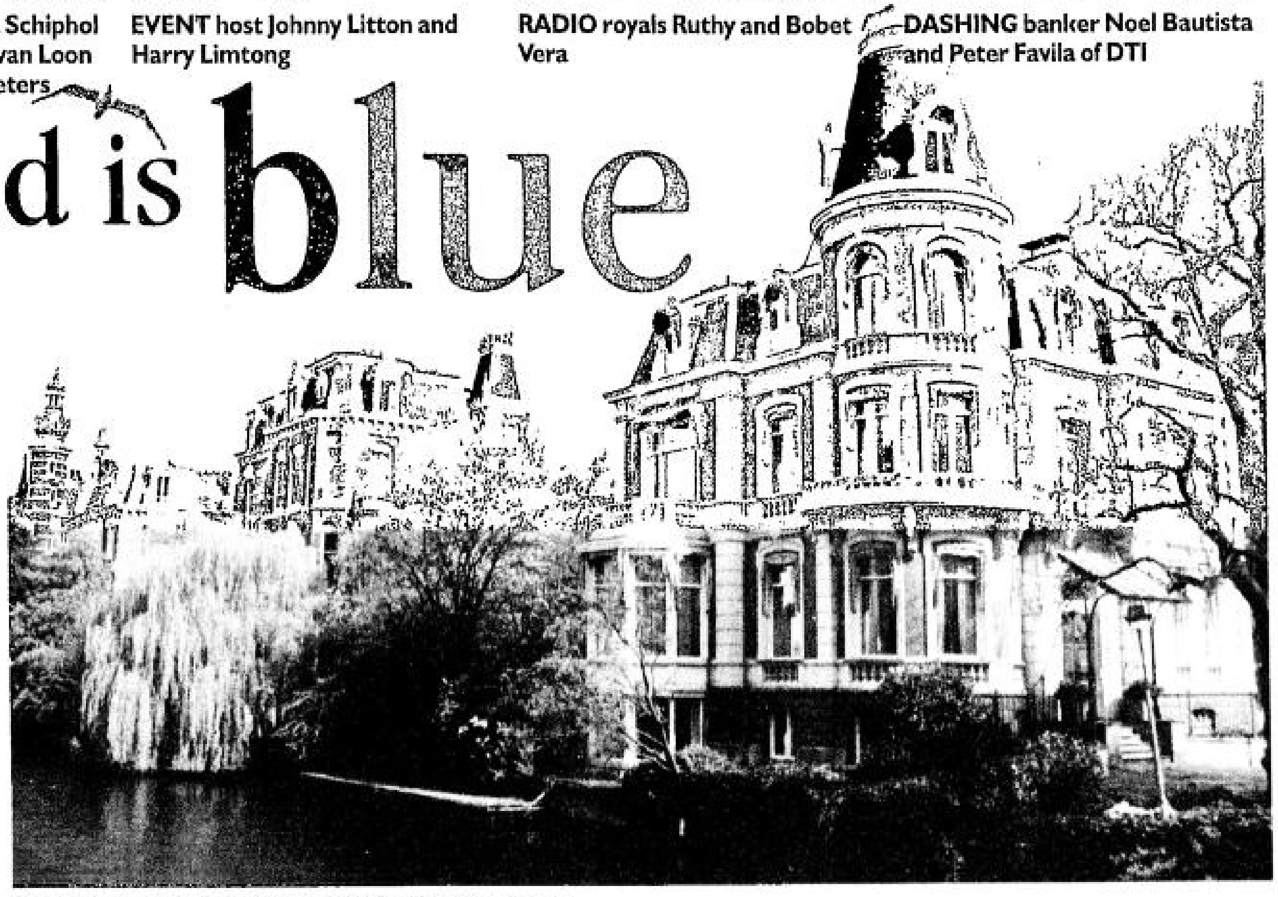
RADIO royals Ruthy and Bobet Vera

DASHING banker Noel Bautista and Peter Favila of DTI

Blue, blue, my world is blue

SECURITY Bank CEO Alberto Villarosa, chair Frederick Dy and Rafael Simpao


IMPRESSIVE lounge of the KLM company employees


AMSTERDAM'S beautiful architecture and scenery

From page E1

dads, perfectly timed on Father's Day.

Security Bank's big bash

From the blue of Sustagen, my next blue event was the 55th anniversary of Security Bank. I wore another smashing creation by **Dennis Lustico** (tel. 0926-7560494) made in the same shade as the bank's striking blue.

Security Bank held a Customer Appreciation Party at the Grand Ballroom of Hotel Philippine Plaza. It has become one of the most prestigious bank institutions with its numerous awards and citations. A musical extravaganza primarily featuring sexy **Pops Fernandez** was performed by the GC4 Orchestra with talented **Gerard Salonga** as conductor and musical director.

The nostalgic jazz era of the '50s was the theme of the evening, appropriately also the era when Security Bank was founded.

Looking ravishing through three ball gown changes, Pops sang a medley of songs with **Michael Williams** and **Jeffrey Hidalgo** accompanying her in selected duets. She mentioned that 55 years is indeed a long time and joked her boyfriends usually only last two years. My own marriage is now 12 years and one day. I do hope to celebrate our 55th anniversary alive and in good health.

New Dutch airport

On a more global context, the color blue is also the chosen scheme of KLM Royal Dutch Airlines. Last month, together with INQUIRER columnist **Maurice Arcache**, we were invited to check out the impressive facilities of Schiphol Airport in The Netherlands. This was my first chance to travel to the land of tulips and cheese, and I was excited to try out their wooden clogs.

Amsterdam is a very charming place. Its old houses are distinguished by their dimensions and architectural features, especially the crowning part of the façade. The Dutch are also known for their windmills, although unfortunately, we didn't get a chance to tour to countryside.

A tour of Netherlands' museums is a must-do especially the Van Gogh Museum. It houses the largest collection of Vincent Van Gogh, an artist whose vibrant use of colors matches my own color sense. His yellow "Sunflowers" is one of the most beautiful and most expensive of all paintings ever made. The composition is a rhapsody in yellow and his aggressive brush-strokes are filled with emotion. The other important museum is The Rijksmuseum, which contains the works of Rembrandt van Rijn, a much older, darker artist. The color contrast of the two artists is amazing.

One of the highlights of the tour was the House of Anne Frank, a young Jewish girl who wrote a celebrated diary of her life during World War II. She hid in this house with her family for two years before their secret refuge was discovered and she was sent off to the gas chambers. It's a horrifying look at a brutal time is world history.

On a less historical aspect, another highlight is The Bulldog Bar, a graffiti-covered bar that publicly sells "Space Cakes." The spiked dessert is available over the chilled counter but it was only brave, dog-lover **Kathy Moran** who dared purchase it. In the land of the free (prostitution and drugs are legal!), we conservative Pinoys didn't even consume the cupcake. We all just nibbled for fear of acting stupid on our tour of the Schiphol Airport.

We were fearful because the new airport screening methods employ the latest technology, using radio waves to scan the body by means of reflection. The scan is made inside a cylindrical device that looks like a transporter machine from "Star Trek." This method detects not only metal objects, but plastic and ceramic objects as well. Actually, we were more concerned with their drug-sniffing dogs.

The spacious, slick interior of the executive lounge of KLM is divided into different areas for travelers to relax, check e-mails, eat and watch TV. Complete bathing facilities are also available, as well as quiet rooms for sleeping.

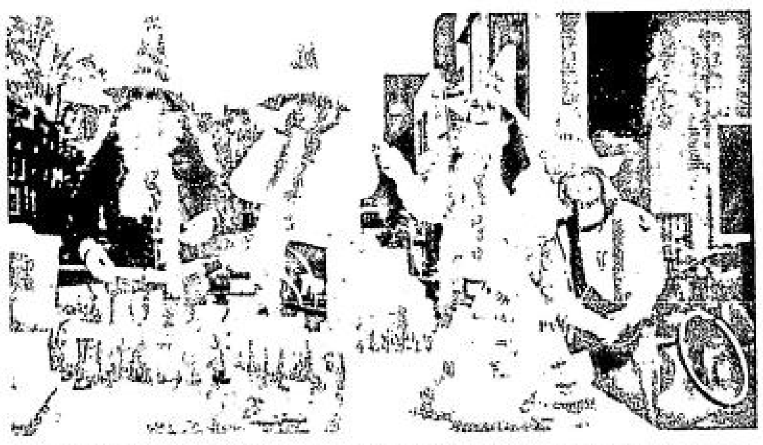
The tour included the KLM employees' lounge where the pilots and stewardesses hang out between flights. If I could only tolerate turbulence, I would consider being a KLM stewardess. Of course, I also need to be about a foot taller.

Since KLM flies nonstop to Europe daily, these flights are so convenient and one does feel secure on their planes. Call 8871202, e-mail reservations.Philippines@klm.com or visit www.klm.com.ph

The short but memorable trip was bad for my diet. Maurice convinced me to buy almost every variety of cheese and have them vacuum-packed so they can be stored for weeks. Those days in Dutch land made me a cheese lover. We totally enjoyed the wonderful sights Amsterdam has to offer, including a peep at the Red Light District, and we celebrated Queen's Day together with the whole city, this time clad in orange and not blue.

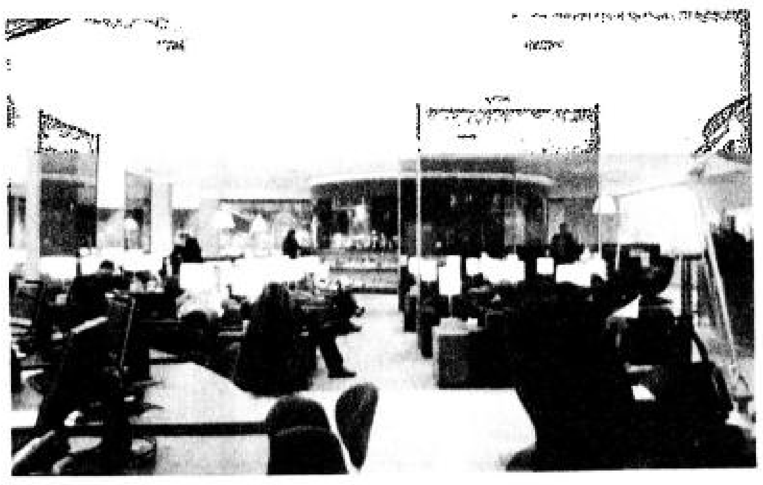
E-mail the author at seaprincess@inquirer.com.ph

ENJOYING Amsterdam: Joy Abrogar, Joanne Ramirez, Maurice Arcache, Sea Princess, Dindin Monserrate and Kathy Moran


ALL-ORANGE Kathy Moran celebrating Queen's Day with the locals

PR guru Keren Pascual and Bench king Ben Chan

TRAVELING business executive Ricky Delgado


SPACIOUS executive lounge of KLM Royal Dutch Airlines

COLUMNIST Joanne Ramirez in front of "Night Watch" by Rembrandt

SECURITY Bank executives at the 55th anniversary with Pops Fernandez

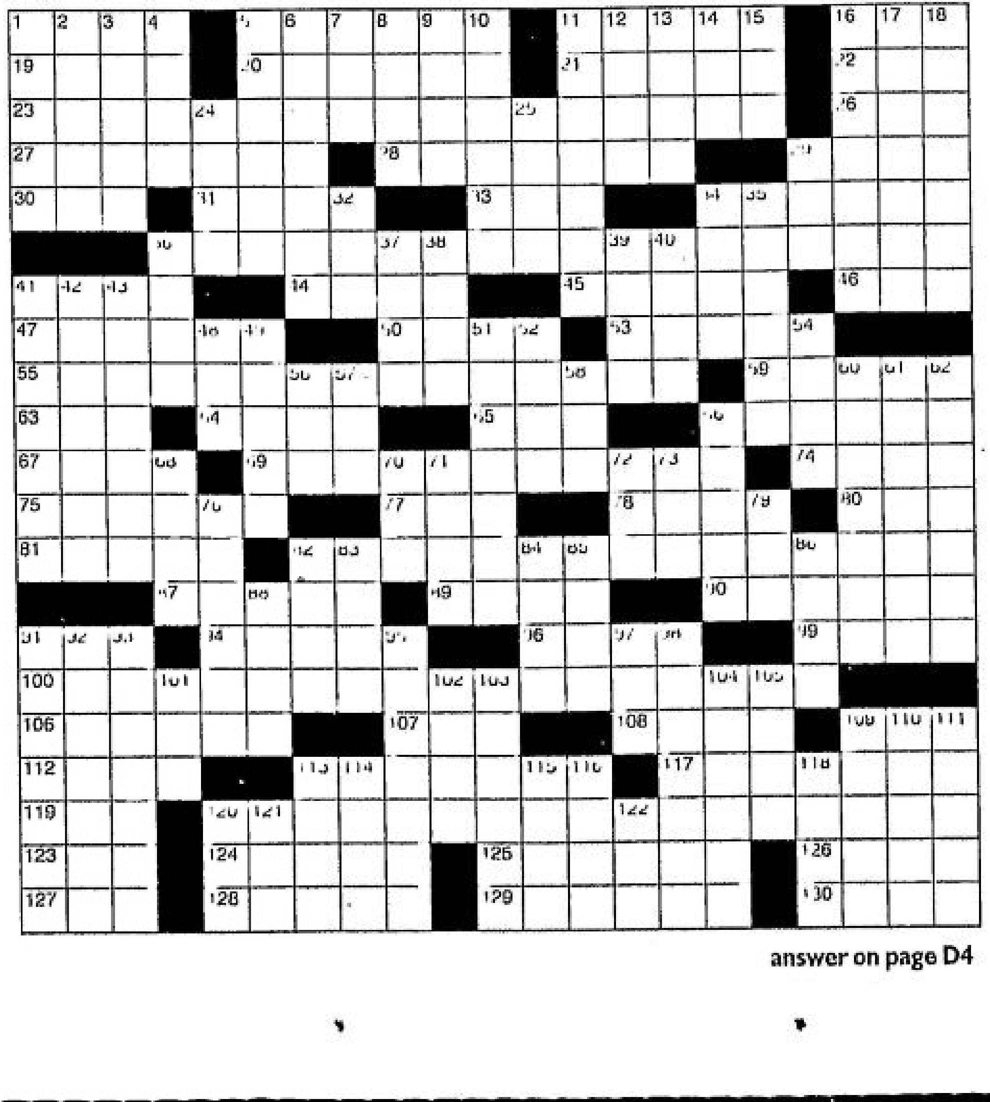
SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

IN STYLE

ACROSS
1 Flank
5 See 33-Across
11 Rot
16 Clear — bell
19 Crochet, e.g.
20 Actress Bassett
21 Wear away
22 Catch red-handed
23 Start of a riddle
26 Desertlike
27 Advance clearance event
28 Withdrew formally
29 Some jeers
30 Pronounce
31 Fires up, as an engine
33 With 5-Across, axel performer
34 Oaks-to-be
36 Riddle, part 2
41 Autocrat of old
44 Nonclerical
45 At that place
46 Pack-carrying beast
47 Elk
50 School sports org.
53 "— Gold" (Fonda film)
55 Riddle, part 3
59 Actor Brad's family
63 New Deal monogram
64 The "P" of UTEP
65 Bus rte. stop
66 Invite on a date
67 Lofty poetry
69 Riddle, part 4
74 Corn covering
75 TV's Geraldo
77 "The Adventures of — Tin Tin"
78 Paint layer
80 Hit CBS show
81 Cubic meter
82 Riddle, part 5
87 One-named male model
89 Conspiracy
90 Barely manage
91 Poitiers pal
94 "Mephisto Waltz" composer Franz
96 Frisbee, e.g.
99 Cuts short
100 Riddle, part 6
106 Pesters
107 Before, to Keats
108 "Hopalong Cassidy" star William
109 Compete (for)
112 Airshow trick
113 Ontario Indians
117 Potshot takers
119 Watchdog's warning
120 Riddle's answer
123 Pass easily
124 Coeur d'—, Idaho
125 Hit the hay
126 Comic Wilder
127 Miffed
128 Engine knocks
129 Draws out
130 Adam's apple locale?

DOWN
1 Record flaws
2 Prefix with red or structure
3 Uncertain
4 H-shaped letters
5 Weasellike mammals
6 Daredevil Evel —
7 Mellow
8 Thomas Hardy's Durbeyfield
9 Peace Nobelist Wiesel
10 Like spoiled oil
11 Least exciting
12 Writer — Stanley Gardner
13 Chilly
14 Central Oklahoma city
15 "You got it!"
16 It's between France and Spain
17 Island wraps
18 Deep gulfs
24 Taprooms
25 Nona- plus one
29 Showy scarf
32 Medicare org.
34 Land unit
35 Nest noises
36 Sutherland solo
37 Perform a 36-Down
38 "— homo!" ("Behold the man!")
39 "Nope"
40 Move, in real estate slang
41 Double-value offers: Sl.
42 Certain excavation hole
43 Green-light
48 Sixth of a fl. oz.
49 "— Ship A-Sailing" (nursery rhyme)
51 Weaponry collection
52 "The Thin Man" dog
54 Adherent of a religion of India
56 Suffix with legal
57 Hide — hair
58 Major fight
60 Mention tangentially
61 Madame of wax museums
62 Island NW of Nevis
66 Colorful mineral
68 Vassal
70 Misadd, e.g.
71 Weakling
72 Hospital div.
73 "— won't be afraid" ("Stand By Me" lyric)
76 Property in land
79 "Bad boy!"
82 Carp, e.g.
83 Seep out
84 Ore deposit
85 Glue — (adhesive-in-a-tube brand)
86 Unwanted plant
88 Drill inserts
91 Mixture
92 One of the Balearic Islands
93 Snubbed
95 African flies
97 Day of rest: Abbr.
98 Shutdown
101 Quick trip
102 Part of Q.E.D.
103 Watch out for
104 Some wildcats
105 Alter pieces?
109 Irked
110 Actress Dunne
111 Ruhr city
113 Yoked yaks
114 Piquancy
115 Fired
116 In — (as originally placed)
118 Diary unit
120 Beer source
121 Bulldog, schoolwise
122 — -tac-toe



answer on page D4

What's Up with the MVP CUP
ASIA vs EUROPE 2

Last Year's Players have had a Busy Year

It's been nearly a year since the inaugural MVP Cup was held in the Philippines, and a lot of things have happened to the participants. Some of last year's standout shuttlers have been joining various tournaments not just to keep in competitive shape but also to earn more prestige for their respective nations.

European champion Yao Jie competes for the Netherlands.

[illegible] number [illegible] gold medal [illegible] representing [illegible]

Taufik Hidayat won the Olympic gold medal for men's singles in 2004 and is currently ranked number 8 in the world.

Filipino sensations Kennie Asuncion and young brother Kennevic Asuncion are the 24th ranked mixed doubles team.

China's Lin [illegible] ns the numbe[illegible] ayer in th[illegible]

The English pair of Donna Kellogg and Gail Emms [illegible] world number [illegible]

[illegible] the Philippines [illegible] Mia Audina of the Netherlands [illegible] ranked [illegible] in women's singles and equally dangerous in doubles play.

Take world men's number 1 Lin Dan for instance. Since providing the tournament-clinching win in the first ever MVP Cup, the Chinese sensation has won four more major tournaments. These were the China Masters, the Yonex Sunrise Hong Kong Badminton Championships, the Yonex All England Open, and the Thomas Cup. Lin Dan lost in the World Badminton Championships to his teammate in last year's MVP Cup, Indonesian sensation Taufik Hidayat. Taufik, the reigning Olympic gold medalist in men's singles, has had an eventful year since last July. After defeating Lin Dan and becoming the only player to win gold medals in both the Olympics and the World Badminton Championships, he also made a major decision in February of this year. That was when Taufik married his girlfriend, Ami Gumelar, in Jakarta.

Gail Emms proudly represented Europe in the first MVP Cup in both women's doubles (with Mia Audina) and mixed doubles (with Nathan Robertson). Since then, the 27-year old Emms and Robertson have earned the world's number 1 ranking in mixed doubles and re-teamed with fellow English player Donna Kellogg to win the Carlton International and the bronze medal at the Commonwealth Games. The Netherlands' Mia Audina pulled double duty in the last MVP Cup as she competed in women's singles and teamed with Emms in women's doubles. Audina lost to eventual champion Xie Xingfang in the semifinals of the 2006 Yonex All England Open Championships and barely lost to France's Pi Hongyan in the finals of the Aviva Singapore Open.

For the MVP Cup 2 slated for the Araneta Coliseum on July 14-16, 2006, Emms will bring Kellogg along for the ride. Audina also returns as Europe aim to reverse their fortunes from last year's edition. That won't be easy as Lin Dan, Taufik, and Zhang Ning will return to power Team Asia, together with the Philippines' own Kennevic and Kennie Asuncion. If last year is any indication, expect even more fireworks as the MVP Cup 2 takes shape.

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SMART

Anniversary of Canonical Coronation to be marked

ART RESTORER TOM JOVEN has been asked to restore the image of Virgen de los Remedios and have her vestments made for the 50th anniversary of her Canonical Coronation Sept. 8 at Villa del Sol in San Fernando, Pampanga. Archbishop Panciano Aniceto will crown the Virgin.

On July 18-20, the image, enshrined at the Chancery Chapel, will be brought to different parishes in Masantol.

Schedule of visits to other places is: July 22-24, Apalit; July 24-26, San Simon; July 26-28, Sto. Tomas; July 28-30, Manalin; July 30-Aug. 1, Guagua; Aug. 1-3, Sasmuan; Aug. 3-5, Lubao; Aug. 5-7, Floridablanca; Aug. 7-9, Porac; Aug 9-11, Santa Rita; Aug. 11-13, Bacolor; Aug. 13-15, Mexico; Aug. 15-17, San Luis; Aug. 17-19, Candaba; Aug. 19-21, Santa Ana; Aug. 21-23, Arayat; Aug. 23-25, Magalang; Aug. 25-27, Mabalacat; Aug. 27-29, Angeles City; Aug. 29, University of the Assumption; and Aug. 30-Sept. 8, San Fernando Cathedral, where the novena will be prayed.

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

The visit of the Virgin to different parishes in Pampanga is a tradition started in 1952. Then Bishop Cesar Ma. Guerrero initiated the "Crusade of Peace and Charity" to benefit the poor.

Bishop Guerrero brought the image in the San Roque Parish in barrio Baliti in San Fernando to Masantol where it stayed for one week.

Rich people of the town donated rice, vegetables and fruits and meat. Processions brought the donations to people of different towns.

Not only donations came, but miracles, as well, through the intercession of the Virgen de los Remedios.

Since the beginning of the tradition, Doña Jacinta vda. de Tayag was assigned by Bishop Guerrero to prepare the portable *templete* for the image. Doña Jacinta did this for many years until she died.

The family of Tom Joven, who was asked to restore the Virgin, now lives in Doña Jacinta's old house. Tom's parents, Ramon and Imelda Joven, bought the house and lot in 1974. His parents tore down the old house and built a new one.

"Apong Doro," then a young boy who saw the beginning of the Cruzada, said the Virgin returned to "her house" after 50 years. The people of Pampanga call their Virgin "*Tula ding Capampangan*" or "Joy of the Capampangans."

To this day, seven Damas de Caridad are in charge of the Cruzada with the help of seven Caballeros de Cristo.

An official hymn was composed by Gaudencio Malig of Bacolor with lyrics by Felix Punzalan of San Matias town. The present director of the Crusade is Fr. Mario Ramos.

The vestments of the Virgin are being made by Plumaria, a design house for vestments managed by Jerome de Jesus.

When the Canonical Coronation of the Virgin was being planned in 1956, the people of Baliti refused to give the Virgin thinking she would not be returned to their church.

It was believed that "where the Virgin was, there she would stay." So Bishop Guerrero had a replica made. Apostolic Nuncio Egdio Vagnozzi crowned the Virgin.

The original image of the Virgen de los Remedios remains in Baliti, which celebrates her feast day on Nov. 26.

The parish priest is Fr. Mar Miranda.

Fiesta Mass

A special Mass will be celebrated 8 a.m., July 2, at the Club Filipino for the feast of Our Lady of Piat. The Piat Legacy Foundation leads the celebration.

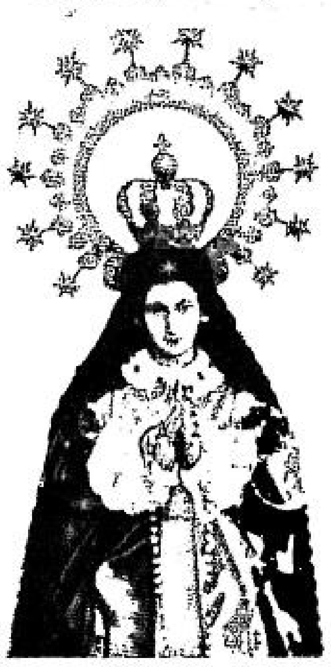
Former First Lady Imelda Marcos, whose birthday is on July 2, is a devotee of Our Lady of Piat. Bobby Caballero recalls that Ms Marcos was acquitted of the cases filed against her in New York on the feast day of Our Lady of Piat.

Ms Marcos was the guest of honor during the launch of the book "*Yena Tan Ngamin*" ("Mother of Us All") at PowerBooks two years ago. Call 8126272 or e-mail bobbcab@hotmail.com.

A special Mass is also scheduled at 8 a.m., July 8, at Sto. Domingo Church.

Apparitions

At least 250,000 pilgrims are expected in Medjugorje this week to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the apparitions to six young visionaries of Our Lady of Medjugorje in 1981.



VIRGEN de los Remedios is enshrined at the Chancery Chapel of the San Fernando Cathedral in Pampanga

Virginia Villahermosa sent me this message of Our Lady:

"My greatest joy is to see you praying to my son, Jesus, gathered in one heart."

The Protestant journalist Wayne Weible wrote "Letters from Medjugorje" and "The Message." He converted to Catholicism after visiting Medjugorje.

Prayer requests

The abandoned children in Ephesus House in Guiguinto, Bulacan, will pray every day for your intentions. Text your request or if you want to help to 0917-8176919. The house is run by the Loving Hands of Joseph and Mary Foundation.

Vows

The Daughters of St. Paul will hold the perpetual religious profession of sister nuns at 9 a.m., June 29, at the Queen of the Apostles Sanctuary, 2650 F.B. Harrison St., Pasay City. The sisters are Maricar Andamon, Lorena Briones, Cristina Madrigallos, Elvie Rafaela, Lina Salazar and Amelyne Paglinawan. Gaudencio Cardinal Rosales will officiate.

Condolences

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Cleofe Rosales, mother of Fr. Roy Rosales, and Fr. Gabriel Casal. The sudden death of Fr. Casal from a massive stroke was a shock to friends and fellow priests. May their souls rest in peace.

Incorruptible body

Yoly Vizcarra says the body of St. Charbel was found incorrupt after hundreds of years before his beatification in 1965.

By the way, professor Edru Abraham's wife is Becky Demetillo. Edru is a nephew of St. Charbel.

Masses

Gaudencio Cardinal Rosales will officiate in a concelebrated Mass marking the death anniversary of St. Josemaria Escriva at 6 p.m., June 26, at the Manila Cathedral. Other Masses will be held at St. James the Greater Parish in Ayala Alabang, 6:20 a.m.; St. John Bosco Parish, 12:15 p.m.; and Santuario de San Antonio at 6 p.m.

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Contact Person
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Councilor Mark Ortiz
Office of the City Mayor
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RACE TIME
21K Half Marathon 6:00 AM
3K Kiddie Run & 5K Fun Run 6:00 AM

REGISTRATION FEES
3K Kiddie Run P 30.00
5K Fun Run P 40.00
21K Half Marathon P 100.00

VENUE
METRO MANILA
Contact Person
JULY 16, 2006
RACE c/o Ms. Thelma Biscocho
G/F Vasquez Madrigal Plaza Building
Annapolis St., Greenhills, San Juan
(02) 727-9987

RACE TIME
42K Full Marathon 4:30 AM
3K Kiddie Run, 5K Fun Run & 10K Run 6:00 AM

REGISTRATION FEES
3K & 5K Student Runners P 50.00
5K Fun Run P 100.00
10K Run P 100.00
42K Full Marathon P 200.00

NATIONAL MILO 30th MARATHON

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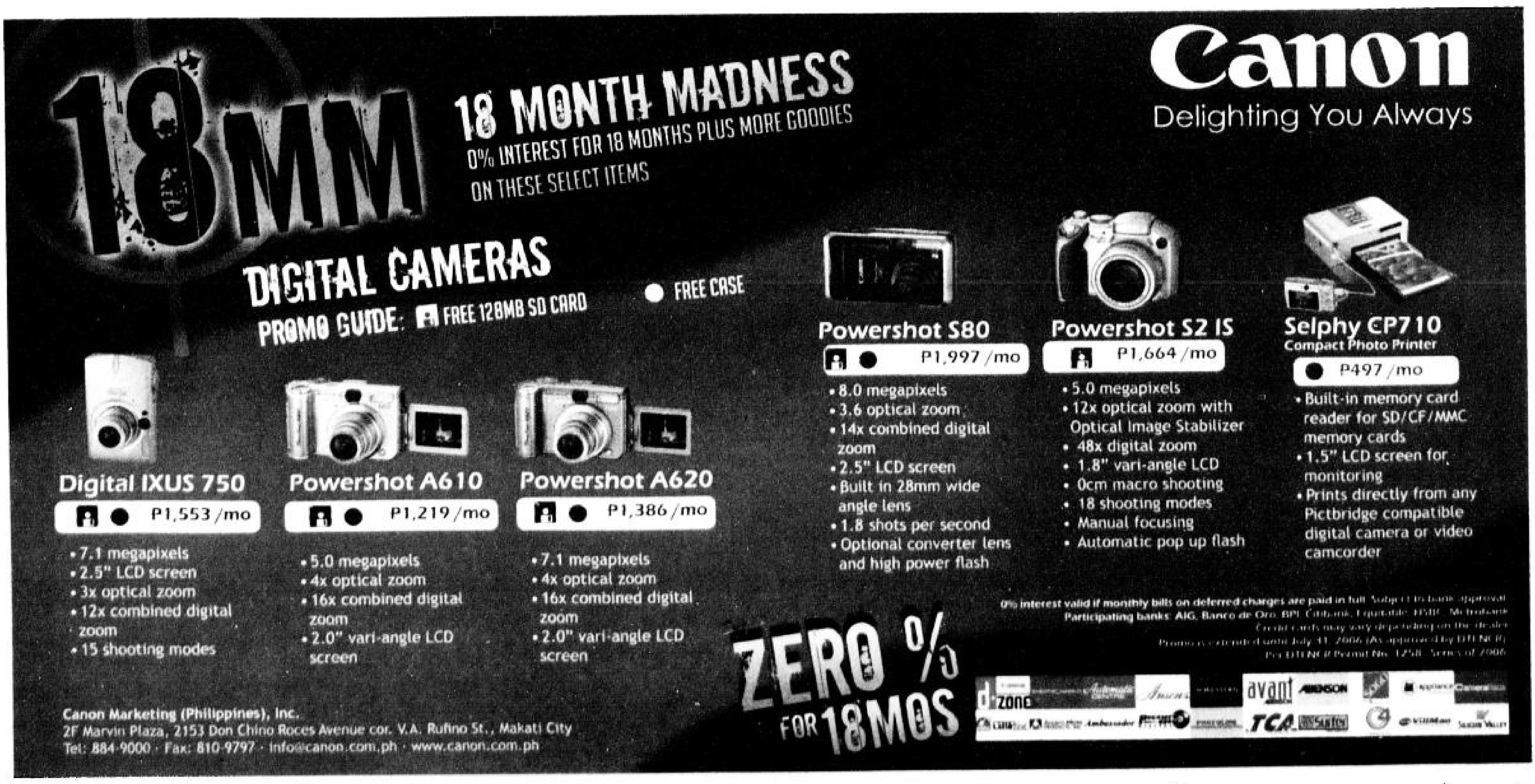
THE BIGGEST, THE LONGEST, AND THE GRANDEST RUNNING EVENT IN THE COUNTRY



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Cup of life

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GERMANY

Text and photos by Vangie Baga-Reyes

THE WHOLE world is in the grip of football fever. Germany has welcomed millions of visitors from all over the world to witness the thrilling matches.

Fans are in high spirits. They wear imaginative outfits bordering on the outrageous. They paint their faces with their respective flags and even put on crazy masks to probably scare off other nationalities similarly wanting to see their national clubs win the Cup.

Fans give idols like the British David Beckham and German goalkeeper Olivver Kahn the kind of adulation normally reserved for pop stars.

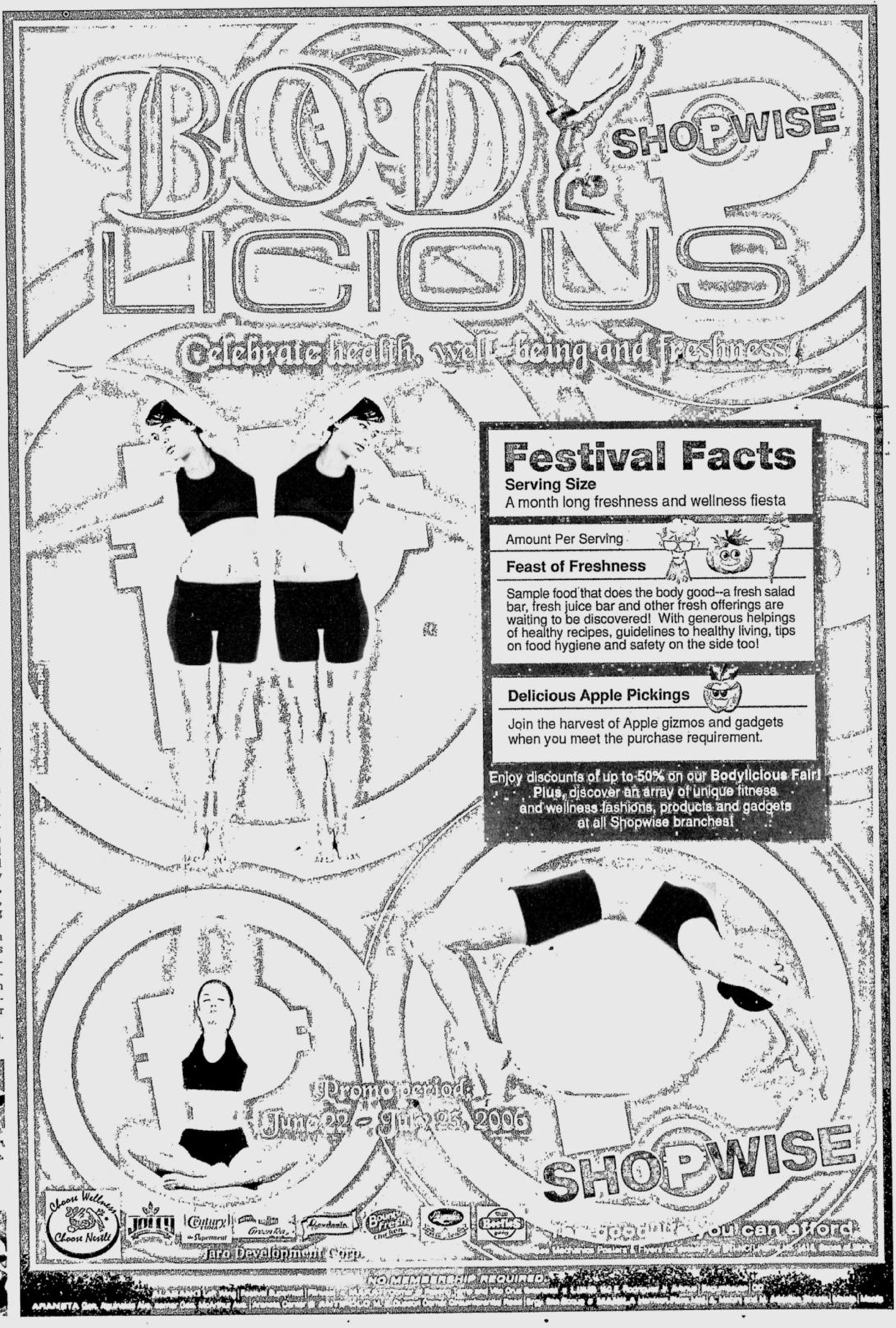
The stadiums, particularly those in Munich and Nuremberg, are filled to the rafters. Fans roar in unison and wave their flags and banners with pride and joy.

The Munich stadium by itself is an attraction for many a football fan. The diamond-shaped outer skin of the stadium lights up in different colors. This spectacular, futuristic Munich landmark is said to have cost 280 million euros to build.

The soccer pitch extends to the various merchandise available in every nook and corner of Germany. From bags to key chains, jerseys, pins, wallets, caps and balls to pillows, plates, tea set, jewelry and what-have-you. Hotels even have soccer-inspired rubber duckies. All souvenir stores carry the cuddly Goleo VI, this year's mascot, and Pille, his talking ball.

And, when there's a game to watch, there's always food. Spectators munch huge pretzels and German sausages, while gulping cold Paulaner beer in plastic mugs.

Very German. Prost!



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Festival Facts
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Amount Per Serving
Feast of Freshness
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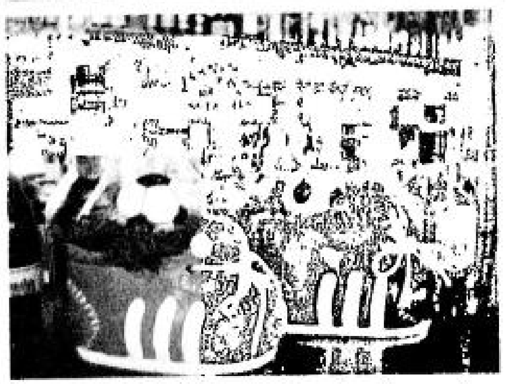
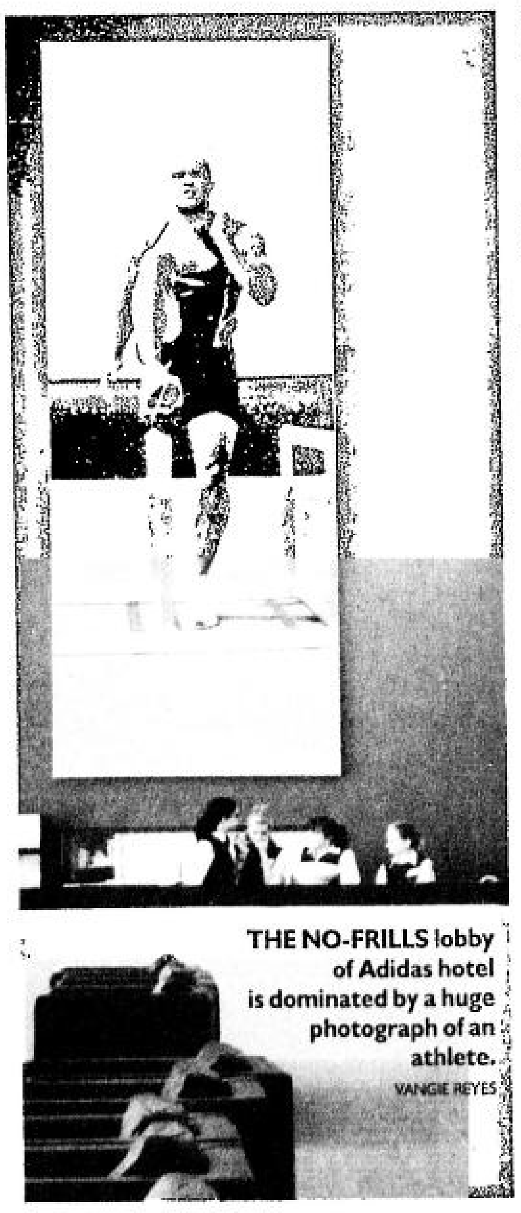
Kingdom of the sole

ADIDAS Global Headquarters in Herzogenaurach, Germany



MINIATURE Adidas shoes made of ceramics adorn the bar. VANGIE REYES

HOTEL rooms and lobby are decorated with photograhs of athletes and their sports. VANGIE REYES



THE NO-FRILLS lobby of Adidas hotel is dominated by a huge photograph of an athlete. VANGIE REYES

By Vangie Baga-Reyes

AS THE WORLD WATCHES THE thrilling games of the 2006 Fifa World Cup, there's another "world" in Germany that's keeping the ball game rolling, so to speak.

It's the World of Adidas, based in Herzogenaurach, Germany, where the global headquarters of the Adidas group is located.

Adidas is the official sponsor, supplier and licensee of this year's World Cup. Six of the 32 participating teams (Germany, Argentina, France, Spain, Japan and Trinidad and Tobago) wear the latest Adidas creations, from jerseys and jackets to goalkeeper's gloves and shoes.

Well over 200 players use Adidas footwear in the World Cup, wearing either the +Predator Absolute or the +F50 Tunit, the brand's high-performance footwear designed for better flexibility and traction.

Even the official soccer balls come from Adidas. Referees wear Adidas. Ballboys, officials and volunteers, too.

Yes, Adidas welcomes the World Cup in its own country. It's like a homecoming—in Adi Dassler's homeland.

Dassler, founder of Adidas company, began manufacturing shoes in 1920 in his factory in Herzogenaurach using the limited range of material available to him. The idea was both simple and ingenious: to equip every sports person with the optimal gear for his needs.

Adidas has existed as a company name since 1948. Dassler created the name by combining the first syllables of his first name and surname. A year later he registered the three stripes as his trademark. Today, Adidas product range covers shoes, clothing and accessories for all kinds of sports, from basketball and football to fitness and training, adventure, trail and golf.

Adidas is now the largest provider of sports shoes and clothing in Europe.

Sports world

A visit to Adidas headquarters in Herzogenaurach is like seeing a whole new world inspired by sports.

Sitting in a former US military base, the 114-hectare headquarters took more than a year to build. To make it easier for visitors, HQ has been divided into World of Sports, World of Living, World of Commerce and Public World.

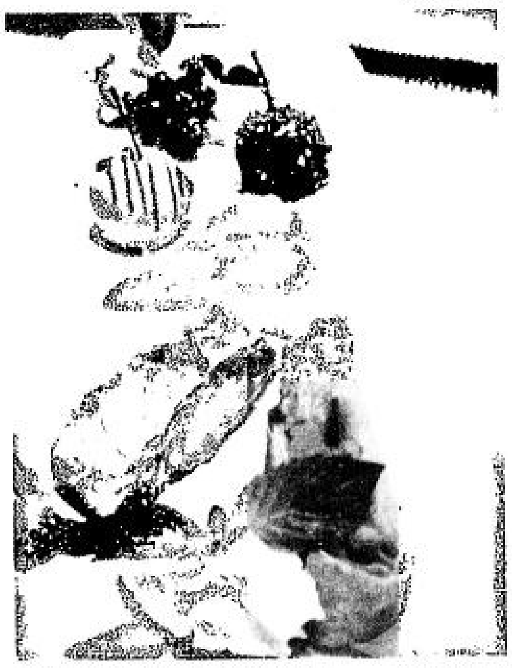
The World of Sports, situated on a 39-hectare area, houses the corporate office of the Adidas Group. It is conceived like a campus as it also features sports and outdoor areas, state-of-the-art exhibition halls and a restaurant called Stripes, located on the banks of an artificial lake.

The place is cozy and a bit quiet, even if there's around 1,400 employees from 53 nations working here.

World of Sports, since it has its own soccer field, tennis court and basketball court, has played host to many sport superstars. Besides soccer players David Beckham and Michael Ballack, pole vaulter Yelena Isinbayeva, tennis stars Justin Henin-Hardenne and Martina Hingis, US basketball star Tracy McGrady and the German soccer national team have been guests in the WOS.

Another attraction of WOS is the huge exhibition hall featuring the Adi Dassler Brand Center, the venue of the group's presentation of concepts and product innovations of the Adidas brand.

PINK roasted calf with gravy, veggies and mashed potato from Adidas Ramada Hotel. VANGIE REYES



A PLATTER of sweet delights. VANGIE REYES

Upon entering the building, one comes upon the 2,000-sqm sized auditorium-liked entrance area. The area invites the visitors to enter the exhibition rooms, conference rooms and presentation areas. The collections of the three Adidas divisions (Sport Performance, Sport Heritage and Sport Style) can be viewed by retailers and visitors.

The brand center also has the "Walk of Fame, a museum of sorts highlighting past milestones and future innovations of Adidas. Here, cameras and videos are not allowed.

World of Living, in the far southwest corner of the prime lot, offers 600 residential units for either of its employees or for the well-off families who wish to buy a house in the quiet town.

World of Commerce, the smallest of the four worlds, houses the Adidas Factory Outlet Store. With a million visitors from all over the world each year, the store sells products at discounted prices and is a haven for shoppers.

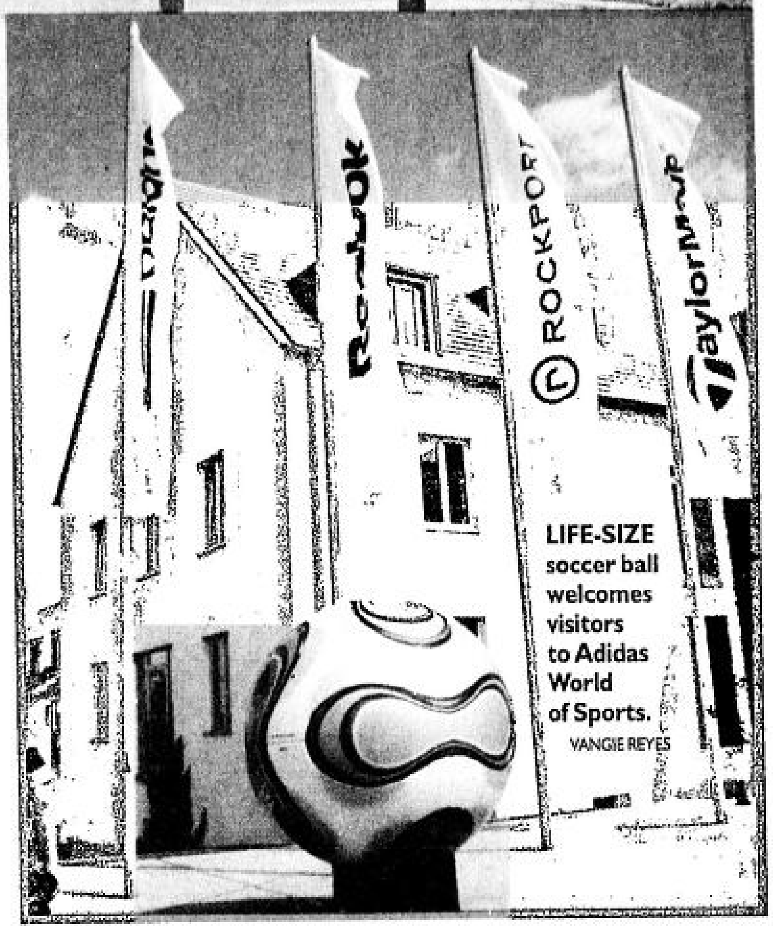
Public facilities find a home in the fourth world, the Public World, which houses the four-star Adidas Ramada Hotel, with 150 rooms and a wide range of leisure and gastronomy services, including a restaurant and bar as well as a fitness and spa area.

Women's fall-winter

Coinciding with the World Cup games, Adidas has also launched its Fall/Winter collection for women dubbed Adilibria, with the slogan, "Power from Within."

Adilibria is a high-quality sport performance line of products that combines performance and design. The line is a complete range of women's apparel, footwear and accessories covering the gym, running, swimming, yoga and tennis.

"The new collection offers lightweight and flowing fabrics, as well as fresh material mixes that assure comfort, breathability and extreme freedom of movement," said Franziska Horstmann, Adidas senior product manager women's global marketing/sport performance division.



LIFE-SIZE soccer ball welcomes visitors to Adidas World of Sports. VANGIE REYES

ADIDAS merchandise are sold in Fan Shops outside the stadiums. VANGIE REYES

World Cup fanatics and other sports denizens find perfect footing in Adidasland

Horstmann added that the ladies' apparel has used a variety of high-end technologies, such as ClimaCool and ClimaWarm, to provide heat and moisture management through thermal insulation in cold weather conditions.

To drum up interest in the new line, Adidas has tapped the support of world-class athletes, such as Yelena Isinbayeva (Russian pole vaulter), Allyson Felic (American sprinter), Ana Ivanovic (Serbian tennis player) and Gro Hammerseng (Norwegian handball player).

The Adidas women ambassadors will be seen wearing Adilibria in their games.

"We are actually working closely together with athletes all over the world in order to make sure that we create clothes and products that we know enhance their performance," said Horstmann.

Adilibria color palette features feminine tones, such as pale peach and soft orange mixed with different shades of grey, and the light grey with an electric-blue night sky and the more classic white and dark colors.

"Adilibria collection focuses on details and on combining shapes and colors," said Horstmann. "Very soft non-sporty tones plus stylish and voluminous silhouettes are fully integrated in the sport products."

Adidas Women Adilibria collection will be available next month worldwide, including the Philippines, at the Adidas Sport Performance concept stores.

E-mail the author at vbaga@inquirer.com.ph

FALL/WINTER COLLECTION '06. Adidas Adilibria line is a complete range of women's apparel, footwear and accessories covering five different sports categories, namely, gym, running, swimming, tennis and yoga.

FINDING FULFILLMENT IN HELPING OTHERS SUCCEED

I've been truly blessed that it's now my turn to pay it forward. And with Sara Lee, I am in a better position to help others because the earning opportunity is higher.

[illegible]

Let's Rock n' Roll!
Win P100,000 cash & more!

JOIN NOW!

OPEN TO ALL DEALERS

- For every P1,000 DGS purchase of Sara Lee products from July 1-31, 2006 you get one (1) raffle coupon.
- The more you buy, the more chances for you to take home the grand prize P100,000 tax FREE!

GET SET TO WIN!

- A total of 270 winning coupons for the major and grand prizes will be drawn
- 264 winners of home appliances
- 6 winners of P100,000 cash prize each.

OTHER PRIZES:

TV Set, Mini-Component, DVD Player, Turbo Broiler, Electric Oven, Electric Fan, Rice Cooker, Rechargeable Lantern.

Go to the nearest Sara Lee branch for more details

Sara Lee

PROMO PERIOD JULY 1 - 15, 2006
Per DTI-NCR No.1652 SERIES OF 2006

Let's Rock'n' Roll!

• PREMIUMS • PREMIUMS • PREMIUMS • PREMIUMS • PREMIUMS

Denim rocks, denim rules!

LADIES DENIM JACKET
Sizes: S / M, L / XL
Color: Black/ Blue
only P239 with any purchase worth P700

SAVVY DRAWSTRING BAG
only P219 with any purchase worth P700

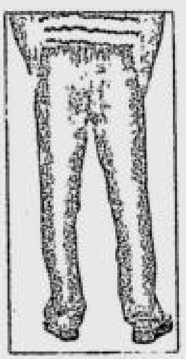
DENIM SANDALS
Sizes: 6, 7, 8
Reg. P400.00
only P219 with any purchase worth P700

NEW PRODUCTS • NEW PRODUCTS • NEW PRODUCTS • NEW PRODUCTS • NEW PRODUCTS

NEW

GENRE

GENRE JEANS FOR MEN
Size: #32, #34, #36
Reg. P1,150.00

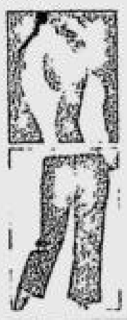


NEW

girls' attitudes
GOTTA HAVE IT!

SEAMLESS RACERBACK TANK
S / M, L / XL
Reg. P575.00

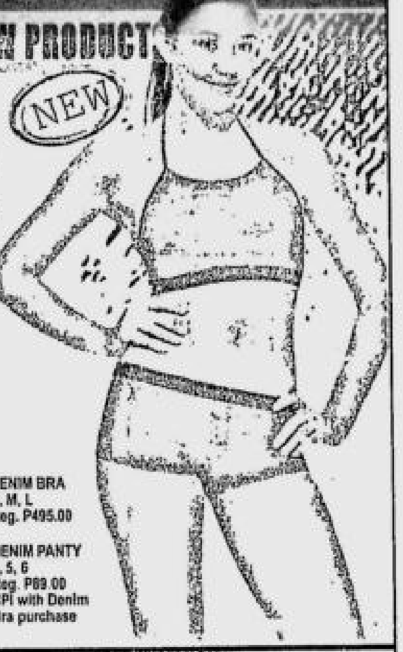
CROPPED DENIM PANTS
S, M, L
Reg. P935.00



NEW

DENIM BRA
S, M, L
Reg. P495.00

DENIM PANTY
4, 5, 6
Reg. P89.00
CPI with Denim Bra purchase



NEW **blue crush** girl — NEW **blue crush** dude

up to 40% OFF!

BODY MIST 100 mL Reg. P290.00 SPECIAL P199.00 SAVE P91.00				
BODY SPLASH 100 mL Reg. P235.00 SPECIAL P149.00 SAVE P86.00	**FRAGRANCE ROLLETTE** 10 mL Reg. P225.00 SPECIAL P135.00 SAVE P90.00	**BODY MIST** 100 mL Reg. P290.00 SPECIAL P199.00 SAVE P91.00	**BODY SPLASH** 100 mL Reg. P235.00 SPECIAL P149.00 SAVE P86.00	**POCKET EDITION** 10 mL Reg. P210.00 SPECIAL P129.00 SAVE P81.00

beauty touch NEW

BLAZIN BLUES EYESHADOW Stonewashed, Midnight Blue, Dusk Reg. P185.00 SPECIAL P129.00 SAVE P56.00	**BLAZIN BLUES MASCARA** 10 g Reg. P250.00 SPECIAL P159.00 SAVE P91.00	**BLAZIN BLUES EYELINING PENCIL** Reg. P199.00 SPECIAL P129.00 SAVE P70.00

NEW

girls' attitudes
GOTTA HAVE IT!

GIRLS ATTITUDE 3-WAY COLOR IN FLIP-TOP CASE
REG. P225.00
SPECIAL P159.00
SAVE P66.00

only P159!

Playtex
THANK GOODNESS
IT FITS

NEW

EMBROIDERED UNDERWIRE BRA
34 nearly A
34 nearly B
36 nearly A
36 nearly B
Pearl, Black
Reg. P455.00

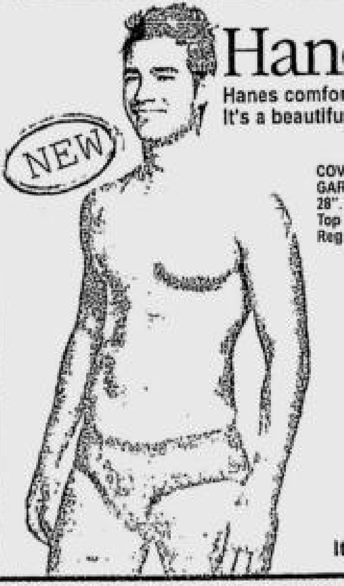
Champion

NEW

1020 COLORBLOCK LOGO
Blue, Gray
S, M, L - Reg. P490.00
XL - Reg. P510.00

NEW

1018 RAGLAN TEE
Light Blue, Light Pink
S, M, L - Reg. P430.00
XL - Reg. P450.00



NEW

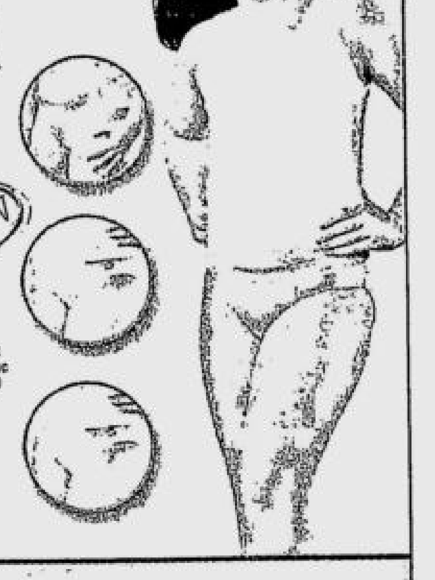
Hanes
Hanes comfort.
It's a beautiful thing.™

COVERED GARTER BRIEF
28", 30", 32", 34", 36"
Top Dye Blue
Reg. P175.00

NEW

Hanes comfort.
It's a beautiful thing.

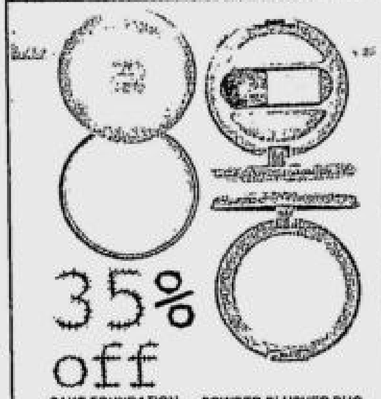
NEW!
MESH HIPSTER
4,5,6,7
Black, Beige, White
Reg. P180.00



NEW

PANTY
S, M, L
Pack of 2
White & Pink
Yellow & Lilac
Reg. P185.00

SPECIAL DEALS ON COSMETICS, FRAGRANCES & TOILETRIES

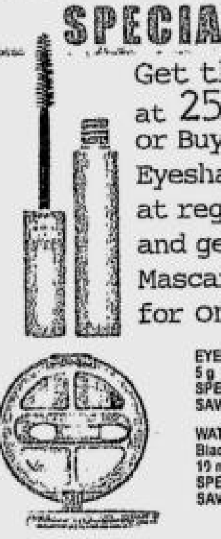


35% off

CAKE FOUNDATION
25 g Reg. P210.00
SPECIAL P136.50
SAVE P73.50

POWDER BLUSHER DUO
5 g Reg. P335.00
SPECIAL P217.75
SAVE P117.25

COMPACT POWDER
12 g Reg. P265.00
SPECIAL P172.25
SAVE P92.75



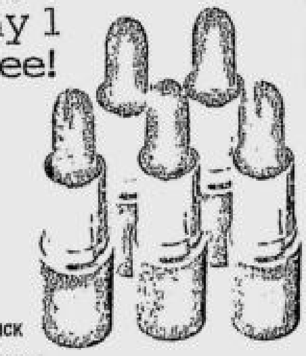
Get the Mascara at 25% OFF or Buy the Eyeshadow Quad at reg. price and get the Mascara for only P29

EYESHADOW QUAD
5 g Reg. P350.00
SPECIAL P262.50
SAVE P87.50

WATERPROOF MASCARA
Black
10 mL Reg. P260.00
SPECIAL P195.00
SAVE P65.00

Buy any 1, get any 1 free!

beauty touch



LIPSTICK
4 g
Reg. P250.00

YOU AND YOUR BODY HAND & BODY LOTION
For Normal to Dry Skin
With Retinol and Sunscreen
Dermatologist-tested
A. RETINOL
B. HONEY
C. CITRONELLA LEMON
150 mL
Reg. P240.00
SPECIAL P99.00
SAVE P141.00

any 1, for P99!
SAVE P141!

A LITTLE ROMANCE SUMMER

A. FRAGRANCE ROLLETTE
10 mL Reg. P225.00

A LITTLE ROMANCE (Original)

B. PERFUMED BODY TALC
100 g Reg. P170.00

C. BODY WASH
200 mL Reg. P225.00

D. BODY SPLASH
100 mL Reg. P235.00

E. ROLL-ON ANTI-PERSPIRANT DEODORANT
50 mL Reg. P165.00

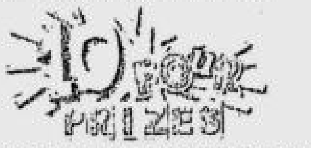
F. FRAGRANCE ROLLETTE
10 mL Reg. P225.00

G. BODY SPRAY
75 mL Reg. P205.00

H. SKIN SOFTENING HAND & BODY LOTION
150 mL Reg. P235.00

Buy [illegible] AN [illegible] Lotion FREE!
SAVE UP TO P390!

SALES RECRUITMENT



OPEN TO ALL QUALIFIED IGSs

- For every P1,000 DGS you make on July 1-31, 2006, you get 1 square.
- Each of the 2nd, 4th, 7th and 10th square entitles you to one (1) instant prize of your choice.

Go to the nearest Sara Lee Branch for more details.

COOL GUY SPORT Reg. P295.00 SPECIAL P177.00 SAVE P118.00	**WILD WEST** Reg. P295.00 SPECIAL P177.00 SAVE P118.00
MR. NICE GUY Reg. P295.00 SPECIAL P177.00 SAVE P118.00	**AQUA FOR MEN** Reg. P295.00 SPECIAL P177.00 SAVE P118.00
MIDNIGHT SUMMER Reg. P295.00 SPECIAL P177.00 SAVE P118.00	**FEARLESS** Reg. P295.00 SPECIAL P177.00 SAVE P118.00
FIDELITY BLUE Reg. P295.00 SPECIAL P177.00 SAVE P118.00	**ARMAND DUPREE** 75 mL Reg. P295.00 SPECIAL P177.00 SAVE P118.00

40% off or buy 1 at regular price get 2 for only P99!

ZWITSAL HYPO-ALLERGENIC WHITE

BABY POWDER
200 g
Reg. P190.00
SPECIAL P119.00
SAVE P71.00

BABY BATH
200 mL
Reg. P200.00
SPECIAL P119.00
SAVE P81.00

BABY COLOGNE
200 mL
Reg. P240.00
SPECIAL P119.00
SAVE P121.00

BABY LOTION
200 mL
Reg. P210.00
SPECIAL P119.00
SAVE P91.00

BABY SHAMPOO
200 mL
Reg. P200.00
SPECIAL P119.00
SAVE P81.00

only P119!

COOL SPLASH
Cool Blue,
Fresh Green,
Zestful Purple
250 mL
Reg. P390.00
SPECIAL P190.00
SAVE P200.00

only P190!

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TRAVELBRIEFS

Marian pilgrimage

A 15-DAY TOUR IS BEING ORGANIZED FOR Marian devotees consisting of a visit to two major Marian pilgrimage sites: Lourdes in France and Fatima in Portugal, as well as other religious sites like the Black Virgin, or Virgen Moreneta in Montserrat, Spain; the Sagrada Familia in Barcelona, Spain, the Cathedral in Salamanca famous for its 53 scenes of the life of Christ in the Gothic style; to the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela and its museum in Spain, the Cathedral and St. Anthony de Padua church in Lisbon, Portugal. Call 8154938/6925.

Play and win

Singapore Airlines' "First to Fly the A380 Quiz and Draw" is giving away two seats on the world's first A380 commercial flight and a luxurious two-destination hotel stay in Singapore and Sydney. Sia celebrates the A380 historic flight from Singapore to Sydney. The promo is open to all 18 years old and older. It runs until Sept. 13. To join, simply log on to www.singaporeair.com/a380.

Tour guide seminar

The Department of Tourism is conducting a 22-day comprehensive multilingual Tour Guiding seminar, July 10-Aug. 8. Featured speakers are from the tourism industry, academe and government. Prescreening of qualified applicants is on June 26-30. Call 5257980, 5361128 or 5238411.

Special packages

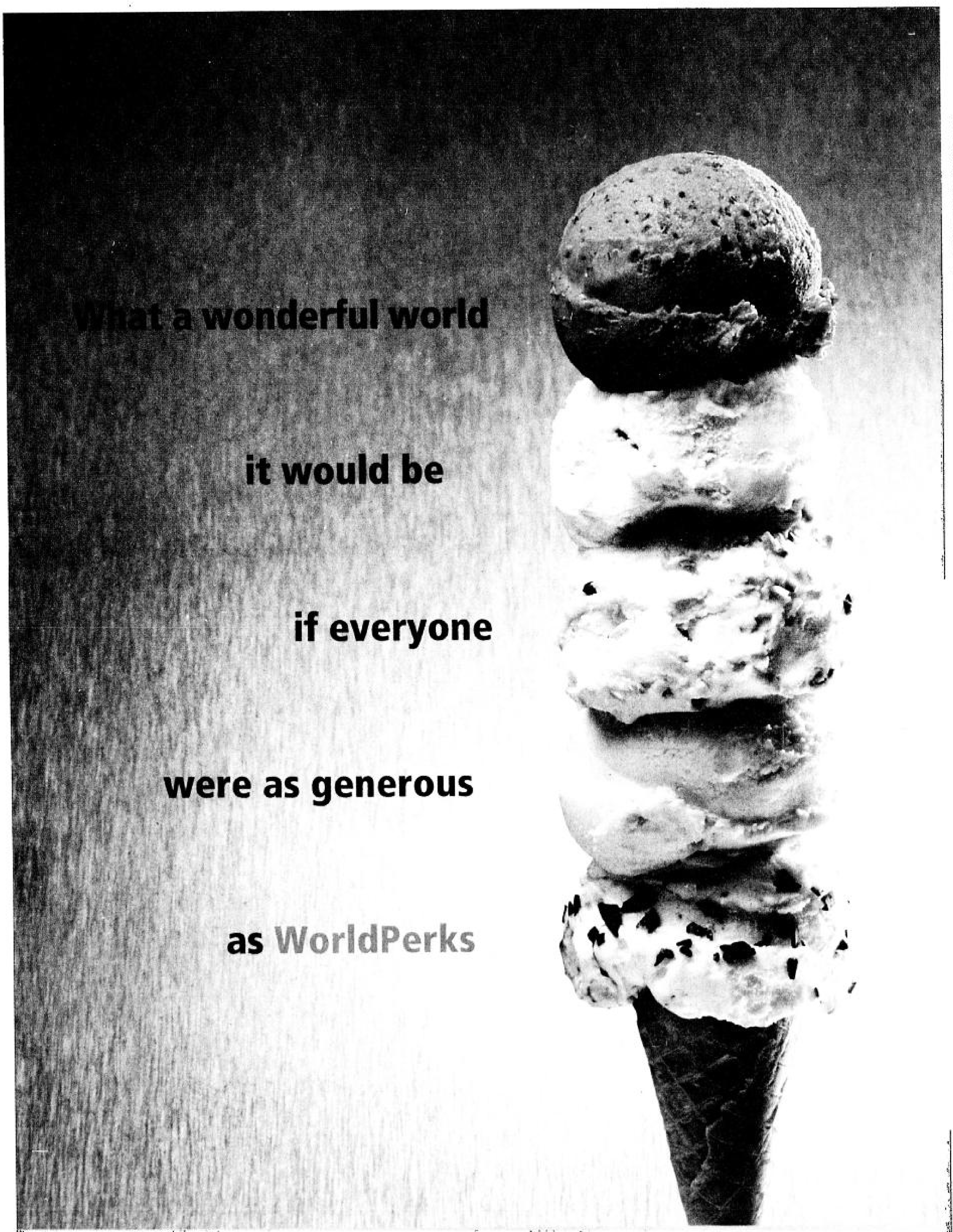
Emirates Airlines offers special travel packages for First and Business Classes until Aug. 31. First Class passengers traveling to Dubai from anywhere receive two complimentary nights in a deluxe room at the Ritz Carlton Dubai. Business Class passengers can stay overnight in a deluxe room at the Jumeirah Emirates Towers. Both groups can choose between US$100 (P5,312) credit at their hotel or a Sundowner dune dinner Safari. The offer also includes a 96-hour visa.
Call 8115278, or visit www.emirates.com.

'Tee for Two' offer

Mount Malarayat Golf and Country Club in Lipa City offers "Tee for Two" for P4,800, inclusive of tax, until Sept. 28. The special weekday package for two includes a one-night stay at The Inns at Mount Malarayat, breakfast for two and two rounds of golf at the golf course. The package is not applicable on Friday and Saturday nights, or on official holidays. Call (043) 7560608 and (043)7563231, or e-mail teefortwo.inns@gmail.com or teeds.devera@gmail.com

NBA MADNESS
NBA MADNESS

ROBINSONS Malls, represented by its general manager Nilo Mapa (right), and NBA Asia, represented by its regional head Carlo Singson (farther right) have forged a tie-up for the former to be the official mall partner of NBA Madness 2006. NBA Madness is an interactive basketball, music and lifestyle event for fans of all ages. Catch the exclusive NBA Madness On The Road Mall tour at Robinsons Galleria today and at Robinsons Place Manila on July 7-9. Shoppers at Robinsons Galleria may also get the chance to meet and greet the NBA Talents live on July 21 at the Fountain Area.



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Flying smart.™ nwa NORTHWEST AIRLINES® SKYTEAM®

TOURISM Secretary Joseph "Ace" Durano (second from left) with Patio Pacific Resort's Primo Mital, managing director Kelly Boncan and owner Charles Uy. The resort is making available "Front Office Management Software," which it developed, to small resorts and hotels accredited by the Department of Tourism. For free software, visit www.patiopacificboracay.com or contact Marian Obispo of the DOT Accreditation Division, tels. 5230252/5249841.

COLORFUL and well-decorated balsa entries during the recent 2006 annual Balsa Festival at the Matabungkay Beach Resort and Hotel in Lian, Batangas focused on environmental protection: "Pangalagaan ang Ating Kalikasan, Panatiliin ang Ating Kapayapaan, Isulong Natin ang Kaunlaran!" The major sponsor for the event was giant food conglomerate San Miguel Corp. Call Matabungkay Beach Resort and Hotel at 7525252/8193080/7516883-85.

EXPAT HAVEN IN MAKATI

About 89 percent of Oakwood Ayala Premier Center's guests are expatriates, majority of them Americans, Indians, Europeans, Japanese, Singaporeans, Thais and some Middle Easterners. Most of the expats are in the Philippines on a long-term basis. As they usually stay from two weeks to one year at Oakwood, they enjoy long-term rates. The hotel is a stone's throw away from Makati's Central Business District. Oakwood is located at the top of the Glorietta Shopping Mall and within walking distance of Ayala's financial district. The serviced apartment complex offers full-service kitchen and laundry facilities. Guests don't have to take care of paying electric and water bills. Many guests have stayed at the hotel before and Oakwood has an occupancy rate higher than the industry average, 90 percent. Call 7298888 or visit www.oakwood.com

INQUIRER Sunday
N A T I O N A L

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The Widest Reaching Classifieds

RATES
P245 per column centimeter
P75 per line
(All prices exclusive of R-VAT)

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12:00 noon	12:00 noon
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FOR SALE

ONE OF A KIND! A MUST SEE!

400 sq.mtr. Villa, 2 ½ years old, 180° Ocean Views and Surigao City, 1125 sq.mtr. of Pro Landscaped, 250 sq.mtr. Patio and Decks, Secure Gated Community, 4 Oversize Bedrms., Living Rm. 100 sq.mtr., 20 ft Ceiling-Water Pond 2 ½ Full Baths, 40 sq.mtr. Dining Rm. w/ Granite Bar Covered Patio. Full Professional Kitchen, Full Laundry Room, 2 ½ Car Garage

Too much to list
Best Quality Used

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henri_kwia@yahoo.com
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(PDI--June 25, 2006)

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- ShangGrand/St. Francis Twr
- ORT/Serendra/Columns
- PPT/Esensa/Regent/OMP
- Paseo Park View/Gmbelt Park

Rush & GOOD DEALS!!

- Greenmeadows 875sqm Nice/Desperate Sale
  OPEN HOUSE JULY 2
- Greenhills NE 1001 sqm Connecticut St./Comm'l
  OPEN HOUSE JULY 9
- Forbes/Dasma/Urda/BAV/SL

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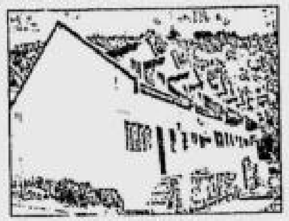

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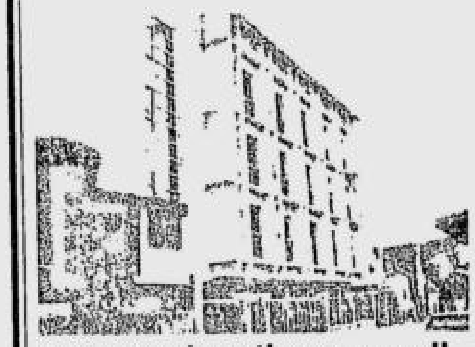

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  Mobile nos. (0921) 610-1940
  or e-mail him at: **gmdelosreyes_17@yahoo.com.ph**
- **Ms. Analie Delos Reyes**
  843-8828 (M-F 1pm-5pm)
  Mobile nos. (0920) 924-5722
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CAGELCO II

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND TO BID

The **CAGAYAN II ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE, INC. (CAGELCO II)** is inviting all interested bidders to pre-qualify and to bid for the following:

1. **Disposal of non-performing assets (Distribution Transformers, tie wires, and assorted hardwares)**
2. **KWH Meters (CL 100, 20, and 10)**
3. **Distribution Transformers**

To be qualified, bidder must have fully complied with the following:

1. Accreditation Requirements (for submission to the Accreditation Committee Chairman, Clarence E. Jacinto)
   a. Company Profile
   b. Business Registration
   c. Business Permit
   d. BIR/VAT Certificate
   e. Latest Income Tax Return (ITR)
   f. List of Clients for a period of three (3) years
   g. Financial Statement
2. Must be able to pay P2,000.00 (for this particular bidding only and not refundable) for bid documents during the pre-bid conference.

CAGELCO II reserves the right to reject any/or all bid without any reason, waive any formality therein, accepts proposal most advantageous to the cooperative and assumes no obligation to compensate or indemnify any bidder for expenses or losses that may be incurred in the preparation of bid nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

Pre-bid conference and bidding schedules shall be informed to all qualified bidders through fax and mails.

Deadline for submission of requirements - July 03, 2006.

(Sgd.) **GABRIEL A. TORDESILLAS**
General Manager

(PDI - June 18 & 25 2006)

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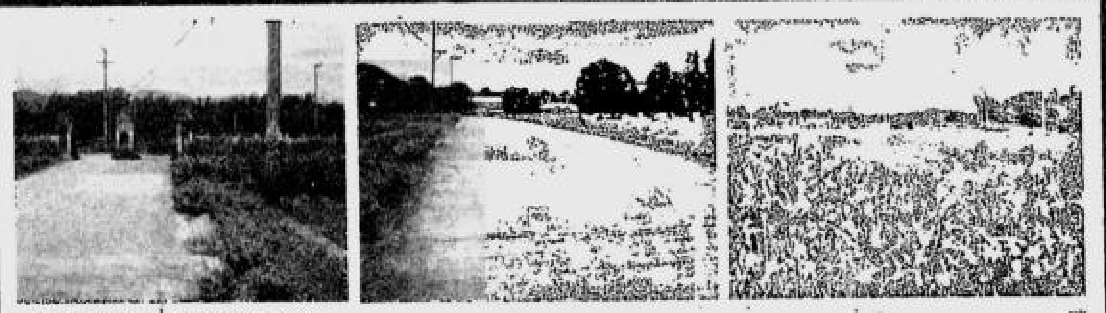

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Available through affordable financing arrangements.

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Republic of the Philippines
PROVINCE OF ISABELA
Ilagan
OFFICE OF THE BIDS & AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY & TO BID

The Provincial Government of Isabela, through its Bids & Awards Committee (BAC), invites contractors registered with and classified by the Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) to apply for eligibility and if found eligible, to bid for the hereunder contract:

Name/Ref.	Location	ABC	Contract Duration
01-Construction of Decaying Vault	GFNDSMH, Ilagan, Isabela	P334,414.29	30 calendar days
02-Construction of Decaying Vault	Cauayan District Hospital Cauayan City, Isabela	P334,414.29	30 calendar days
03-Construction of Decaying Vault	Echague District Hospital Echague, Isabela	P334,414.29	30 calendar days
04-Construction of Decaying Vault	Manuel A. Roxas District Hosp Roxas, Isabela	P334,414.29	30 calendar days
05-Construction of Decaying Vault	Milagros District Hospital Cabagan, Isabela	P334,414.29	30 calendar days

All particulars relative to the eligibility, bid evaluation, and award of contract shall be governed by the provisions of R.A. 9184, otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act and its Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR)

SCHEDULE OF BIDDING ACTIVITIES

BAC ACTIVITIES	SCHEDULE
1 Receipt from prospective bidders of Letters of Intent (LOI) including application for eligibility	June 26-30, 2006 at the BAC Secretariat Office, Capitol, Alibagu, Ilagan, Isabela
2. Issuance of Eligibility Forms	July 3, 2006 at the BAC Secretariat Office
3. Receipt of Eligibility Requirements	July 4-7, 2006, at the BAC Secretariat Office
4. Notice of Results of Eligibility Check	July 12, 2006 at the BAC Secretariat Office
5. Issuance of Bid Documents	July 13-18, 2006 at the BAC Secretariat Office
6. Pre-Bid Conference	July 19, 2006, 10:00 a.m. at the PGO Mini-Conference Hall, Capitol, Alibagu, Ilagan, Isabela
7. Receipt and Opening of Bids	July 31, 2006, 10:00 a.m. at the PGO Mini-Conference Hall, Capitol, Ilagan, Isabela

Complete set of bid documents may be acquired from the BAC Secretariat Office, Capitol, Ilagan, Isabela, by the eligible suppliers/dealers after payment of non-refundable Bidding fee of Php 3,000.00 at the Provincial Treasurer's Office.

The Provincial Government of Isabela reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any required formality and award the contract to any bidder whose proposal has been stated by the BAC as the most advantageous to the Provincial Government and the right to confiscate the bid bond and/or pursue appropriate legal action should the winning bidder refuse to accept the award.

Further, the Provincial Government assumes no obligations whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidder for any expense or loss that they may incur in participating in this undertaking, nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) **MA. THERESA-ARANETA FLORES**
Provincial Administrator & BAC Chairperson

(PDI--June 18, 24 & 25, 2006)

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM

Bicol Cluster, Naga City

INVITATION TO BID

The Social Security System is inviting offers to purchase by way of sealed bids the following properties:

ITEM NO.	PROPERTY LOCATION	DESCRIPTION	MINIMUM BID
1	L9 B3 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	240 sq.m. TCT # 15087 condemnable bungalow	P 280,500.00
2	Maharlika Hiway, Exciban, Labo, Camarines Norte	300 sq.m. TCT# T-65091 dilapidated bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B	68,800.00
3	L29 B16 Our Lady's Village, Pangpang,Sorsogon City	228 sq.m. TCT# T-54623 dilapidated bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B	300,000.00
4	Lot 180-A-13 Sitio Gamot, Bagong Bayan, Ligao City	1000 sq.m. TCT# T-134645 condemnable bungalow	650,000.00
5	L20 B45 Our Lady's Village, Pangpang, Sorsogon City	240 sq.m. TCT# T-54620 dilapidated bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B	290,700.00
6	L13 B5 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	220 sq.m. TCT# 30641 dilapidated bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B	267,000.00
7	L17 B3 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	240 sq.m. TCT# 15186 dilapidated bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B	296,100.00
8	L5 B45 Our Lady's Village, Pangpang, Sorsogon City	244 sq.m. TCT# T-53669 LOT ONLY	292,800.00
9	L17 B15 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	246 sq.m. TCT# 29145 dilapidated bungalow w/ 3 BR, 1 T&B, extension	385,800.00
10	L6 B5 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	220 sq.m. TCT# 30643 dilapidated bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B, extension	337,200.00
11	L1 B18 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	241 sq.m. TCT#29147 dilapidated bungalow w/ 3 BR, 1 T&B	327,000.00
12	L49 B8 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	221 sq.m. TCT# 29150 dilapidated bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B	280,000.00
13	L5 B41 Our Lady's Village, Pangpang, Sorsogon City	180 sq.m. TCT# T-62181 dilapidated bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B, extension	232,700.00
14	L39 B6 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	180 sq.m. TCT# 16409 dilapidated bungalow w/ 3 BR, 1 T&B, extension	366,000.00
15	L6 B8 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	258 sq.m. TCT# 30639 dilapidated bungalow w/ 3 BR, 1 T&B	318,800.00
16	L33 B8 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	180 sq.m. TCT# 29148 deteriorated bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B	303,400.00
17	L23 B4 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	230 sq.m. TCT# T-30670 dilapidated bungalow w/ 3 BR, 1 T&B, extension	317,600.00
18	B4 L3 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	295 sq.m. TCT# 42059 dilapidated bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B, extension	392,700.00
19	L12 B20 Our Lady's Village, Bibincahan, Sorsogon City	1870 sq.m. TCT# T-62178 condemnable bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B	265,100.00
20	L12 B9 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	303 sq.m. TCT# 29146 LOT ONLY	333,300.00
21	L1 B8 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	278 sq.m. TCT# T-30671 dilapidated bungalow w/ 3 BR, 1 T&B, extension	393,600.00
22	L14 B4 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	229 sq.m. TCT# T-30674 dilapidated bungalow	306,000.00
23	L 22 B14 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	266 sq.m. TCT# 16403 dilapidated bungalow w/ 3 BR, 1T&B, extension	399,000.00
24	L17 B11 Kayanga Rd, Mariano Village, Naga City	300 sq.m. TCT# 30451 dilapidated bungalow w/ 4 BR, 1 T&B, extension	933,600.00
25	Lot 550-A, Luneta, Barcelona, Sorsogon	300 sq.m. TCT# T-62177 dilapidated bungalow w/ 1 BR, 1 T&B	176,600.00
26	L5 B8 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	340 sq.m. TCT# 19149 dilapidated bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B	412,700.00
27	L16 B4 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	229 sq.m. TCT# 30640 dilapidated bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B	286,300.00
28	L9 B26 Our Lady's Village Pangpang, Sorsogon City	170 sq.m. TCT# T-54624 dilapidated bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B	244,800.00
29	L13 B33 Our Lady's Village, Pangpang, Sorsogon City	192 sq.m. TCT# T-54621 dilapidated bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B	237,200.00
30	L3 B6 Roseville Subd., Daet, Camarines Norte	274 sq.m. TCT# 43755 LOT ONLY	356,200.00
31	L14 B3 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	240 sq.m. TCT# 19674 dilapidated bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B	290,600.00
32	65 M Castro St., Tinago, Naga City	197 sq.m. TCT#9099 condemnable 2-storey res. w/ 5 BR and 2 T&B	749,500.00
33	L27 B3 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	240 sq.m. TCT# 19669 dilapidated bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B	292,100.00
34	L34 B4 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	230 sq.m. TCT# T-30672 dilapidated bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B	295,200.00
35	L2 B5 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	337 sq.m. TCT# 30837 dilapidated bungalow w/ 3 BR, 1 T&B, extension	465,400.00
36	L1 B25 Our Lady's Village, Pangpang, Sorsogon City	117 sq.m. TCT# T-6225 dilapidated bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B, extension	251,500.00
37	L17 B9 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	180 sq.m. TCT# T-17102 dilapidated bungalow w/ 3 BR, 1 T&B, extension	274,500.00
38	L8 B6 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	315 sq.m. TCT# 30644 dilapidated bungalow w/ 3 BR, 1 T&B, extension	478,800.00
39	L10 B4 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	229 sq.m. TCT# 14633 dilapidated bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B	304,800.00
40	L13 B3 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	240 sq.m. TCT # 1509 dilapidated bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B	293,200.00
41	L35 B4 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	230 sq.m. TCT# T-15083(33) dilapidated bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B, extension	293,700.00
42	L3 B2 Naga City Subdivision, Bgy. Triangulo, Naga City	236 sq.m. TCT#10836 LOT ONLY with area discrepancy on actual layout	684,400.00
43	L11 B15 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	240 sq.m. TCT# 15188 dilapidated bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B, extension	306,700.00
44	L24 B8 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	180 sq.m. TCT# 15190 dilapidated bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B	225,900.00
45	L1 B15 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	266 sq.m. TCT# 19671 dilapidated bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B	359,400.00
46	L21 B3 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	240 sq.m. TCT# 16407 dilapidated bungalow w/ 2BR, 1 T&B, store	313,000.00
47	L11 B7 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	219 sq.m. TCT# 16410 LOT ONLY	240,900.00
48	L1959 National Hiway, Bacolod, Juban, Sorsogon	1,341 sq.m. TCT# T-17266 dilapidated bungalow w/ 3 BR, 1 T&B	432,200.00
49	L11 B4 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	229 sq.m. TCT# 16401 dilapidated bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B, extension	292,300.00
50	L8 B7 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	332 sq.m. TCT# 16406 LOT ONLY	365,200.00
51	L12 B2 Diamond Drive, Lomeda Subd., Naga City	345 sq.m. TCT# 11548 dilapidated split type house w/ 4 BR, 2 T&B	729,800.00
52	L8 B13 Our Lady's Village, Bibincahan, Sorsogon City	180 sq.m. TCT# T-29057 LOT ONLY	252,000.00
53	L33 B5 Imperial Modern Village, San Jose, Pili, Camarines Sur	220 sq.m. TCT# 17100 dilapidated bungalow w/ 2 BR, 1 T&B	277,900.00

Complete description of the properties including Bidding Forms and Instructions to Bidders are available at the Housing and Asset Management Section, 3rd Floor SSS Building, Concepcion, Pequeña, Naga City. Please contact **MS. ERMINA MARIA P. ROBREDO** at Telephone No. 250-81-21 or (045) 472-97-98.

Sealed bids should be dropped inside the Bid Box located at the Housing and Asset Management Section, 3rd Floor SSS Building, Concepcion, Pequeña, Naga City from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm on **20 July 2006.** The bids should be labeled Acquired Assets Disposal Committee, Social Security System.

Bidder's deposit, equivalent to at least 30% (if bidder is former owner, their spouses, parents and children) or 10% (if bidder does not fall on the preceding category) of the bid price in cash (Philippine money/ U.S. dollar) or in Certified Manager's Check in favor of SSS, must be enclosed with a sealed envelope. Any other form of draft purportedly as manner of payment is not acceptable. The bidder must also sign the sealed envelope accross its flap. A sealed bid without the bidder's bond will not be entertained.

The award shall be made to the bidder who makes the most advantageous offer to the SSS. As a rule, cash bids shall be preferred over installment bids. An installment bid shall, however, be considered more advantageous if the installment bid is greater by at least 20% over a cash bid. In case of installment bids, the bid with the shortest payment period shall be preferred unless the difference in the bids is greater by at least 20%. In which case the bid with the longer payment period shall be considered more advantageous to the SSS.

The sale of the properties shall be "As Is, Where Is". The winning bidder shall undertake the responsibility to acquire and maintain peaceful possession and enjoyment of the property without seeking the assistance of the SSS.

After deducting the bid deposit from the Bid Price, the balance shall be payable either in cash within 30 days upon approval of the sale or amortized up to a maximum of 120 months at a pre-determined interest rate. If the bidder opts to amortize, proof of income (ITR, business permit or Certificate of Employment and Compensation) shall be among the documents for submission on the bidding date. Upon approval of the sale, the buyer shall issue twelve (12) PDCs covering the first year of amortization and the same number of checks for each succeeding year until fully paid. Actual expenses or advances made by SSS for foreclosure and consolidation of title shall be added to purchase price if the buyer is the former owner or his successor-in-interest provided the fair market value is less than the consolidated value of the property.

The system reserves the right to reject any or all bids, or to waive any defect found therein.

All awards shall be subject to the confirmation of the Social Security Commission whose decision shall be final and binding on all concerned.

(Sgd.) **AVP MARIANO PABLO S. TOLENTINO**
Chairperson, Acquired Assets Disposal Committee

(PDI - June 25, 2006)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Environment and Natural Resources
Visayas Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
Tel. Nos. (632) 929-6626 to 29 • (632) 929-6252
929-6620 • 929-6633 to 35
929-7041 to 43

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

Republic of the Philippines
Second Land Administration and Management Project (LAMP 2)

PROVISION OF CADASTRAL SURVEY WORKS IN LEYTE PROVINCE
Project ID No. DENR-R8-I-01-WB-NCB-2006.
Loan Number 7298-PH

1. The Government of the Philippines (GOP) has received a Loan from World Bank toward the cost of land administration and management project, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan, together with the GOP counterpart funds, to payments under the contract for Provisions of Cadastral Survey Works in the Municipality of Palompon, Province of Leyte.
2. The Department of Environment and Natural Resource (DENR) - Region VIII, an agency of the Republic of the Philippines, now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for provision of *Cadastral Survey Work in selected barangays in the Municipality of Palompon Leyte. Project ID No. DENR-R8-I-01-WB-NCB-2006.*

Module No.	No. of Barangays	Estimated No. of Lots	Estimated Area in Hectares	Duration (calendar days)
1	6	730	438	210

3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act No. 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act. Subject to exceptions stated in this Bidding Documents, only bids from Bidders who pass an eligibility check will be opened. The Bidder with the Lowest Calculated Bid (LCB) shall advance to the post-qualification stage in order to finally determine its responsiveness to the technical and financial requirements of the project. The contract shall then be awarded to the Lowest Calculated Responsive Bid (LCRB) who was determined as such during post-qualification. The estimated project cost is *One Million Pesos (PHP 1,000,000.00).*
4. The documents required in the Eligibility Documents shall be submitted as part of the Technical Documents of the Bidders as provided in the Instructions to Bidders.
5. Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from *the Land Administration and Management Project - Provincial Project Implementation Office (LAMP-PPIO)* and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below.
6. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of ***Two Thousand Pesos Only (PHP 2,000.00).*** The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the bidder or his authorized representative starting ***June 20 - July 25, 2006 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.***
7. The *DENR VIII Bids and Awards Committee (BAC)* will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all Eligible Bidders on *July 7, 2006 at 2:00 p.m.* at the *DENR LAMP PPIO Conference Room, OSS Bldg., Candahug, Palo, Leyte.*
8. Eligible Bidders must submit their Bids at the address below on or before ***July 26, 2006; 2:00 p.m. Late Bids shall not be accepted.***
9. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in the form of *Cash, Certified Check, Cashier's Check, Manager's Check, Bank Draft, Irrevocable Letter of Credit* in an amount equivalent of Ten Thousand Pesos (Php 10,000.00) or a Bank Guarantee in an amount equivalent of Fifteen Thousand Pesos (Php 15,000.00). Late Bids shall not be accepted. Bid opening shall be on ***July 26, 2006 at exactly 2:00 p.m. at the LAMP PPIO Conference Room, OSS Bldg., Candahug, Palo, Leyte.***
10. Completion of the Works is required by ***March 31, 2007.***
11. The *DENR Region VIII BAC* reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

Department of Environment and Natural Resources
LAMP Provincial Project Implementation Office
OSS Bldg., Candahug, Palo, Leyte
Tel/Fax: 053-3238842
Visit: www.denr-lamp.org

(Sgd.) **RAMON S. UNAY**
Region 8 - OIC, RTD for Lands
and BAC CHAIRMAN

(PDI - June 20 & 25, 2006)

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INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

The Alliance for Mindanao Off-grid Renewable Energy 2 (AMORE 2) is a 5-year program being implemented by Winrock International (WI) in partnership with US Agency for International Development (USAID), Department of Energy (DOE), Mirant Philippines Foundation, and the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao (ARMM). AMORE 2 aims to contribute to the peace and development initiatives in Mindanao by improving the quality of life in unelectrified rural communities through sustainable renewable energy projects and effective community organizing.

The objective of this invitation is to solicit responsive offers from qualified suppliers to submit proposals on the supply and delivery of 48 units of 20-Wp Photovoltaic (PV) Power Supply Systems in selected schools in the provinces of Maguindanao, Zamboanga Peninsula, and Tawi-Tawi.

Expressions of Interest (EOIs) must be made in writing and forwarded to the address below **not later than 5:00 PM** of **July 03, 2006:**

Arthur S. Barrameda
Procurement Officer
Unit 1509, Jollibee Plaza
Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1600

Tel. Nos : (+63 2) 687-9091 / 92 / 94
Direct Line : (+63 2) 634-1774
Fax No. : (+63 2) 631-8215

E-mail: abarrameda@amore.org.ph

All EOIs shall be evaluated by the AMORE Review and Awards Team. Bidders shall be provided with a formal Request for Proposal (RFP) kit. A pre-bid conference shall also be convened five (5) days after issuance of the RFP to discuss details and accommodate inquiries. Only pre-qualified bidders shall be awarded a contract. Pre-qualified organizations shall be notified via fax or e-mail.

WI reserves the right to reject any or all applications for prequalification, waive any required formality therein, and accept the bid and award the subcontract to the most advantageous offer to the project. WI assumes no responsibility to compensate or indemnify the bidder for any expense or loss that may be incurred for the preparation of the bids, nor does it guarantee an award will be made.

(PDI – June 25, 2006)

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For particulars, call 812-4520

The Cultural Center of the Philippines
wishes to announce its

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID ON

Name of the Project **Lease of Trellis I**

Brief Project Description **The space for lease is Trellis I located at the CCP Complex, Roxas Blvd. Along Asean Promenade fronting Manila Bay with a total area of 292.145 sq.m.**

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act No. 9184 otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act."

All particulars relative to the eligibility, bid evaluation and award of contract shall be governed by the provisions of RA 9184.

Interested bidders may obtain further information from the BAC Secretariat (c/o Cecilia E. Funtinilla) and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below starting June 20, 2006 from 3.00 pm to 6.00 pm.

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address below and upon payment of a non refundable fee in the amount of THREE THOUSAND PESOS (P3,000.00). The method of payment will be in cash. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.

The CCP BAC will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on July 05, 2006, 3:30pm, 3/F Tanghalang Pambansa CCP (Main Bldg.)

Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered to the address below on or before July 21, 2006; 3:30pm. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in the form of cash/certified check, cashier's check, manager's check, bank draft or irrevocable letter of credit or bank guarantee or surety bond based on the agency approved budget for contract. Late Bids shall not be accepted.

Bid opening shall be on July 21, 2006; 3:30pm at the CCP Board Room, 3/F Tanghalang Pambansa, CCP Complex, Pasay City. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidder's representatives.

The award of the project shall be based on the highest calculated responsive bid received from the Bidders.

The CCP reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders

BAC Secretariat
Cecilia E. Funtinilla
3/F CCP Tanghalang Pambansa (CCP Main Bldg.)
Roxas Blvd., Pasay City
Tel. Nos. : 632-832-3667
632-832-1125 local 1106/1107
Fax No. : 632-551-5960
Website : www.culturalcenter.gov.ph

(Sgd.) **EVA MARI G. SALVADOR**
BAC Charperson

(PDI–June 18 & 25, 2006)

The Cultural Center of the Philippines
wishes to announce its

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID ON

Name of the Project **Lease of The Manila Film Center (MFC)**

Brief Project Description **Lease of the following areas of the Manila Film Center (MFC) building, with a total area of 52,961.49 sq.m.**

1	Archives Level	12,234.90 sq.m.
2.	Intermediate Level	7,588.27 sq.m.
3.	Colonade Level	6,839.32 sq.m.
4.	Second Level	1,240.20 sq.m.
5.	Third Level	1,447.35 sq.m.
6.	Fourth Level	7,137.77 sq.m.
7	Ramp & Stairs outside the Building	16,473.68 sq.m.

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act No. 9184 otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act."

All particulars relative to the eligibility, bid evaluation and award of contract shall be governed by the provisions of RA 9184

Interested bidders may obtain further information from the BAC Secretariat (c/o Cecilia E. Funtinilla) and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below starting June 20, 2006 from 3.00 pm to 6.00 pm

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders from the address below and upon payment of a non refundable fee in the amount of THREE THOUSAND PESOS (P3,000.00). The method of payment will be in cash. The Bidding Documents shall be received personally by the prospective Bidder or his authorized representative.

The CCP BAC will hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on July 05, 2006, 1:30pm, 3/F Tanghalang Pambansa CCP (Main Bldg.)

Bids and eligibility requirements must be delivered to the address below on or before July 21, 2006, 1:30pm. All Bids must be accompanied by a Bid Security in the form of cash/certified check, cashier's check, manager's check, bank draft or irrevocable letter of credit or bank guarantee or surety bond based on the agency approved budget for contract. Late Bids shall not be accepted.

Bid opening shall be on July 21, 2006, 1:30pm at the CCP Board Room, 3/F Tanghalang Pambansa, CCP Complex, Pasay City. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidder's representatives.

The award of the project shall be based on the highest calculated responsive bid received from the Bidders.

The CCP reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all Bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

BAC Secretariat
Cecilia E. Funtinilla
3/F CCP Tanghalang Pambansa (CCP Main Bldg.)
Roxas Blvd., Pasay City
Tel Nos 632-832-3667 • 632-832-1125 local 1106/1107
Fax No. 632-551-5960
Website www.culturalcenter.gov.ph

(Sgd.) **EVA MARI G. SALVADOR**
BAC Chairperson

(PDI–June 18 & 25 2006)

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RESIDENTIAL

PARANAQUE CITY	MIN BID
1. 2-Sty Thse/L62 B2,TLR Classic T'hms, San Agustin Vill, Moonwalk LA 43 / FA 80 (nr SM Bicutan)	1,000,000
2. 2-Sty T'Hse / Unit # 8 Cluster Cartagena St, Levitown Condo Villas II, Don Bosco / FA 88 (nr Better Living Subd & SM Bicutan)	1,400,000
3. * 2-Sty w/ attic & s'pool/L60 B1 Lourdes St, Teoville Subd,Sn Dionisio LA 392 / FA 291 (via Sucat Rd & near Tahanan Vill) * owned by ibank	5,000,000

QUEZON CITY	MIN BID
4. 3-Sty Thse/Unit R Sentosa Hts # 18 Sct Bayoran St, South Triangle LA 182 / FA 391 (between Sct Tuazon & T. Morato, near Hotel Rembrant)	8,000,000
5. Hse & Lot / # 19 Balabac St. Araneta Vill, Brgy. Dona Imelda LA-777, FA-348 * w/ Lis Pendens (near Quezon Inst. & SM Centerpoint)	10,500,000
6. H&L/# 269 M Aquino St Banlat Rd,T Sora.LA 120 / FA 191 (near NPC / NIA Subdivision)	1,350,000

LA MAREA - Sn Pedro, LAGUNA	MIN BID
nr San Pedro, Lag Toll Gate – San Antonio	
7. * Lot / L 1 B 4, Ph 3 / LA 207	1,429,000
8. * Lot / L 2 B 4, Ph 3 / LA 207	1,429,000
9. * Lot / L 3 B 4, Ph 3 / LA 253	1,746,000
10. * Lot / L 4 B 4, Ph 3 / LA 248	1,712,000
11. * Lot / L 5 B 4, Ph 3 / LA 194	1,339,000
12. * Lot / L 6 B 4, Ph 3 / LA 181	1,249,000
13. * Lot / L 7 B 4, Ph 3 / LA 185	1,277,000
14. * Lot / L 2 B 5, Ph 3 / LA 180	1,242,000
15. * Lot / L 4 B 5, Ph 3 / LA 197	1,360,000
* owned by ibank	

CAVITE – Dasmarinas	MIN BID
16. Hse & Lot/ L 5 B 9, Queen St Regency Exec THms, Sitio Malinta Brgy Sampaloc-II / LA-50, FA-68 (near PCU-UTS & Malinta Elem Schl)	700,000

CAVITE - Molino III, Bacoor	MIN BID
Madelaine Place, Springville Subd.	
17. Lot / Lot 8 Blk 1 / LA 117	582,000
18. Lot / Lot 10 Blk 3 / LA 123	611,000
19. Lot / Lot 18 Blk 6 / LA 132	656,000
20. Lot / Lot 19 Blk 7 / LA 132	656,000
Central Phase 2, Springville Subd. (Lots)	
21. L 4 B 1, near ClubHse / LA 122	861,000
22. L 5 B 1, near ClubHse / LA 232	1,636,000
23. L 3 B 2, near ClubHse / LA 97	684,000
24. L 4 B 2, near ClubHse / LA 114	804,000
Washington Manor, Springville Subd.	
25. Lot / Lot 2 Blk 2 / LA 154	1,020,000

Orchard Res'l. Estates and Golf & Country Club - Salitran, Dasmarinas, Cavite	
FAIRWAY LOTS	
26. Lot 46 Blk 50 / LA 630	2,394,000
27. Lot 49 Blk 50 / LA 582	2,212,000
28. Lot 50 Blk 50 / LA 627	2,383,000
NON - FAIRWAY LOTS	
29. Lot 35 Blk 37 / LA 667	2,061,000
30. Lot 12 Blk 38 / LA 653	1,959,000
31. Lot 06 Blk 45 / LA 1,085	3,255,000

CAVITE- Brgy. Palangue, Naic	MIN BID
Mango Orchard Res'l. & Farm Estates	
32. Lot 6 Blk 19A / LA 1,249	1,249,000
33. Lot 5 Blk 19B / LA 3,052	3,052,000
34. Lot 8 Blk 19B / LA 1,890	1,890,000
35. Cor.Lot 9 Blk 19B / LA 2,247	2,585,000
36. Cor Lot 1 Blk 24 / LA 1,624	1,868,000

CAVITE – Carmona (Lot)	MIN BID
37. L 28 B 4, Ph 1, St Andrew St Manila Southwoods,Cabilang Baybay LA 450 (near Gate 1) * w/ Court Decision in favor of Unionbank	3,005,000

BULACAN – Plaridel	MIN BID
Brgy. Lalangan - Plaridel Heights	
38. Cor Lot / L 2 B 47, LA 355	1,243,000
39. Cor. Lot / L 13 B 7, LA 404	1,414,000
40. Cor. Lot / L 2 B 38, LA 411	1,439,000
41. Lot / Lot 25 Blk 8, LA 350	1,155,000

NUEVA ECIJA - Cab. City	MIN BID
# 529 Pag Asa, Daan Sarili (near LTO)	
42. Lot / Lot 3 A 5 / LA 1,847	401,000
43. Lot / Lot 3 A 4 / LA 1,847	401,000
44. Lot / Lot 3 A 3 / LA 1,848	401,000
45. Lot / Lot 3 A 2 / LA 1,848	401,000
46. Lot / Lot 3 A 1 / LA 1,839	401,000

CALOOCAN – Gracepark	MIN BID
47. Lot / L 25 & 26 B 31, 2nd St LA 388 (between 3rd & 4th Ave)	3,428,000

ANTIPOLO, RIZAL (Lots)	MIN BID
48. H&L, L-7 B-3, Valley Golf Dr. Valley Golf Subd., Mayamot LA 1,961 / FA 107 (nr Ortigas Extn)	4,300,000
49. L 20 B 17, Jerusalem St, Palmera Hills,Ph-5,Brgy Uulan/LA 120 Via Tikling Junction & Melendres Subd)	299,000
50. L 23 B 10, Cottonwood Hts Bayugo / LA 266 (nr Sumulong)	1,332,000
51. L 21 B 2, Birchwood St, Cottonwood Hts, Bayugo / LA 355	1,778,000
52. Lot 47 Blk 18,Park Ridge Est Ph 3 (via Valley Golf) LA 811	1,852,000
53. L 17 B 1, Beverly St, Sta Barbara 1 Mission Hills,Colaique/LA 1,021 (nr Pines City)	3,692,000

ANGONO, Rzl. (via Antipolo)	MIN BID
54. Lot/L6 B2, Mills St,Sta Monica Classic Est, Ph 3, Mission Hills Brgy Colaique, LA 540 (near Pines City)	1,700,000

TARLAC (via Hacienda Luisita)	MIN BID
55. 2 Sty H&L / L 7 B 18, Family Park Homes, Brgy Cut-Cut II San Miguel / LA 62 / FA 40	230,000

SAN MATEO,RIZAL-Bo.Patiis	MIN BID
56. *Lot / B 15, LA 40,171	1,607,000
57. *Lot / B 16, LA 40,171	1,607,000
58. *Lot / B 17, LA 40,171	1,607,000
59. *Lot / B 18, LA 40,171	1,607,000
* No Right Of Way	

RESIDENTIAL

Colina Subd – Sn Pedro, LAGUNA	MIN BID
Brgy Sn.Antonio (nr Toll gate & Filipinas Golf)	
60. Lot / Lot 52 Blk 1 / LA 70	406,000
61. Lot / Lot 53 Blk 1 / LA 50	290,000
62. Lot / Lot 54 Blk 1 / LA 80	464,000
63. Lot / Lot 5 Blk 3 / LA 70	406,000
64. Lot / Lot 6 Blk 3 / LA 50	290,000
65. Lot / Lot 7 Blk 3 / LA 50	290,000
66. Lot / Lot 8 Blk 3 / LA 50	290,000
67. Lot / Lot 11 Blk 3 / LA 50	290,000
68. Lot / Lot 12 Blk 3 / LA 50	290,000
69. Lot / Lot 13 Blk 3 / LA 50	290,000
70. Lot / Lot 14 Blk 3 / LA 70	406,000
71. Lot / Lot 2 Blk 4 / LA 50	290,000
72. Lot / Lot 3 Blk 4 / LA 50	290,000
73. Lot / Lot 4 Blk 4 / LA 70	406,000
74. Lot / Lot 5 Blk 4 / LA 70	406,000
75. Lot / Lot 6 Blk 4 / LA 50	290,000
76. Lot / Lot 7 Blk 4 / LA 50	290,000
77. Cor Lot / Lot 1 Blk 4 / LA 83	498,000
78. Cor. Lot / Lot 8 Blk 4 / LA 84	504,000
79. Cor. Lot / Lot 9 Blk 3 / LA 89	534,000
80. Cor Lot / Lot10 Blk 3 / LA 92	552,000

MAKATI CITY - Kingswood Twr	MIN BID
P. Tamo cor V. Cruz Extn, near Shopwise	
81. Condo /Unit 14-E, Twr B, 3BR 2T/B, maid's rm FA 77 / Prkng 12.5 (unit is facing V. Cruz Extn & Mkti CBD)	2,900,000
82. Penthse / Unit P2F, Tower B 28th & 29th flrs / FA 154	7,208,000
83. Penthse / Unit P3F,Tower B 26th & 27th flrs. / FA - 154	7,208,000
# 1656 Penafrancia cor D. Olman Sts. Valenzuela	
84. * Condo w/ prkng, Kikusui Star Condo, Unit 5-A / FA 243 22 * owned by ibank	6,700,000

TAGAYTAY CITY	MIN BID
between Sta. Rosa, Lag. Short-cut & Aguinaldo H-way	
85. Lot/Lot 8, Tagaytay Calamba Rd, Tolentino West (over looking Taal Lake) LA 2,156 * with Lis Pendens	20,000,000

MUNTINLUPA – Alabang	MIN BID
San Jose Vill. (infront of Alabang Town Cntr)	
86. Lot / Lot 264 (Pcs 4945), St Joseph St / LA 526 * w/ Court Decision in favor of Unionbank	3,810,000

COMM'L. / AGRI'L.
(SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL)

PARANAQUE CITY	MIN BID
Dama De Noche St. United Indl. (UPS-IV) Sn Dionisio	
87. *Indl Lot w/ Whse/L 3B2/LA1,072	9,718,000
88. * Indl Lot w/ Warehouse / Lot 6-A LA 1,803 / FA 1,720 (near Leslie Food) * owned by ibank	16,345,000
Across Chinese Temple along Coastal Rd. Tambo	
89. * Comml Lot,L1 B5,Asiaworld City / LA 1,559 * owned by ibank (nr Marina)	33,700,000
90. * Comml Lot,L2 B5,Asiaworld City / LA 1,400 * owned by ibank (nr Marina)	32,200,000

MARIKINA – Sn Roque	MIN BID
91. * Comml Lot w/ Whse,L 15 & 16 Tuazon Ave, New Marikina Subd LA 660 / FA 720 (nr Marcos Hi-way & Sta Lucia Mall) * owned by ibank	10,274,000

QUEZON CITY – Libis	MIN BID
IBM Plaza,Eastwood City-beside Citibank	
92. * Offc Condo w/ prkng,Unit 8A FA 166 * owned by ibank	8,900,000

QUEZON CITY	MIN BID
93. Building / Lots 8 & 9 Blk S 27 Timog Ave LA 1,380 FA 1,500 (nr Unionbank Br & GMA-7) *on Lease	70,000,000
94. Whouse / 185 Roosevelt Ave S F Del Monte / LA 5,641 FA 3,454 (infront of Watch Twr)	140,000,000
95. Warehouse / # 138 Gen Luis cor Pasacola Rd, Nagkaisang Nayon, Novaliches LA 49,504 / FA 23,384	300,000,000

MAKATI CITY	MIN BID
96. Comml / Resl Lot / # 3904 Quingua St, Pinagkaisahan / LA 612 (beside Forbes Park) * w/ Final Supreme Court Decision in favor of Unionbank	18,000,000
# 1656 Penafrancia cor D. Olman Sts. Valenzuela	
97. * Condo w/ prkng/ Kikusui Star Condo,Unit G-A/FA93 *owned by ibank,on lease	3,100,000
98. * Condo w/ prkng/ Kikusui Star Condo Unit G-B/FA85 *owned by ibank,on lease	2,800,000
Millenium Plaza- Mktl. Ave cor Edugue St	
99. Condo Unit / 5/F, FA 261 (near former International Schl)	17,765,000

TARLAC CITY – Poblacion	MIN BID
Panganiban St. - across Iceplant	
100. Lot / Lot 4 A 1 / LA 373	5,390,000
101. Lot / Lot 4 A 2 / LA 373	5,390,000
102. Lot / Lot 4 A 3 / LA 374	5,405,000
103. Lot / Lot 4C, Rizal St/ LA 759	8,094,000

MANILA – Divisoria (KP Twr.)	MIN BID
104. Condo, 2/F, CM Recto Ave cor Juan Luna St / FA 658 *on Lease	28,792,000

NUEVA ECIJA - Cab. City	MIN BID
# 529 Pag-Asa, Daan Sarili (near L.T.O.)	
105. Agri Lot / Lot 3B / LA 37,041	2,366,000
106. Comml Lot w/ Whse & Offc Lot 2H / LA 2,260 / FA 580	5,098,000

VALENZUELA CITY	MIN BID
107. Whse / Lot 13 Templanza St D Pedro Vill, Marulas. LA 2,540 FA 3,314 (near Savory Rest)	18,209,000
108. Indl Lot w/ 2 Whses (14&16) Barracks, Canteen,Guardhse Lot 1075 D 1 C, Plastic City # 6 T. Santiago St, Canumay-West / LA 9,923 / FA 7,096	39,703,000
109. Indl Lot w/ Whse / # 47 Masan Rd LA 7,871/FA 7,040 (nr Maysan Elem Schl)	40,702,000
110. Industrial Lot / Lot 382 C Plastic City Housing,Canumay LA 25,798 (via T Santiago & Pinagbayanan Sts	45,000,000

CAVITE - Tanza, Bo. Tres Cruces	MIN BID
nr Transville Subd. via Trece Martires	
111. Agri Lot / Lot-2931 (Rs-1273) LA 40,127 * w/ Adverse Claim & No Right Of Way	5,117,000

SARIAYA - QUEZON PROV.	MIN BID
112. Agri Lot w/ resl H&L, Whse & Piggery/Lot 6181 A 5 A 1 A 1 D, E,F,G,I & Lot 6181 A 4,Psd 4A 001202, Bo Sampaloc/ LA 101,038, FA 9,277 (along the Hi-way) * with Lis Pendens	45,053,000

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TrustedMaidsYayaCookDriver 7572089

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LGV H/L4br12.5M 0920-6396751

MAHOGANY PLACE
Lots, H&L, Thse C5 nr Fort 1.5M-14M Nr McKinley Hills 4-5br 10% DP or 3Yrs No Int or No DP 10mins Fr. Ayala 0917-8169849

New Intram. Vil. Comm. QC
Nice Houses • 0918-8491952

P1.2M 2BR 2STRY 8054686

SAN DIONISIO P'QUE
577m² P5M • 0917-5367018

ValleVerde 6 P7.8M (neg)
211 sqm 4BR/3TB RENOVTD
09175305468 ; 5333059 MANO

CONDO/TWNHSE

4BR with grge nr Ateneo UP Champion Suprmart Sikatuna Vill QC 9215328; 09166496838

BAGUIO, very luxurious condos across Burnham Park Kisad Rd studio 1&2BR w/ownership starts at 13K /mo Aurous 6391694/ 6870312 / 0917-8102903

BRITANNY T/house Promo
Blk Lot 16 6.6M now P5.7M
Blk Lot 20 6.6M now P5.7M
Blk Lot 14 7.0M now P6.0M
Portofino la522 6.8M now5.9M
Cel no. 0917-8413300

CONDO (Mandaluyong, Pasig,Ortigas & Taguig & QC) 0919-2189817

CUBAO P1.5M 10%DP 5yrs to pay 0% Interest 09178667949

• GRAND SOHO MAKATI •
STUDIO,1&2BR Fully Fitted & Furnished 1.9M UP
Call: 0928-3971193 LITO

Malayan Plaza stud 1-2br
Ivory Court nr. Libis 1-3br
Alexandra FA216 3br 2pkg
Megaplaza 2br 2t&b Prkg
634-1212 • 0917-5213838

MANDA NEAR SHAW
BnewThse/3stry/3br/3-4tb maids1-2grgeP3.950Mup 8903461

MKT. CONDOS 09209126709

NW TOWNHOUSE OVERLOOKING TAAL 200SQM •0920-9039193•

ONE BURGUNDY PLAZA
Rush! 62.70m² 3.5M 09173296211

Oriental Gardens Makati
2.6M UP -FA 33sqm STD/1BR
Near CEU/Mkati Med RFO
Available Tru Pag-ibig
09182908978 / 09064677051

ORTIGAS AREA NEAR EDSA CALL 4354868-09194053902

CONDO/TWNHSE

PANAY QC P1.35M T-9307415

PIONEER HILANDS 25M378.84 S.Q.M.Penthouse 3 Parking,,Furnished, B1-Level 3BRs, Den, Lanai, Family Rm, Maids Rm Call or Text 09175380965 8437633/37

QC PANAY AVE 1BR NR NAT'L BOOKSTORE 0922-8872177

RKWEL RUSH SALE
VERY NICE, 2Bdrm, 2prkng Fully Furnished, P12.5M SMS only - 09178464408

Rockwell Amorsolo West
48m² semi furun P5.8M nego
667-3226 / 613-3987

RUSH 2BR NICE FA 68SQM PILAR VILL 750T 8741376

SALCEDO VILLAGE
LE METROPOLE BLDG, MAKATI 179 SQM 3BR 3BA+Maid Qtr 2 parking, upscale unit, pool, gym, nice views, P9.9M. Better than new! 3% Brokers 0906-300-2044 • 0918-888-4448

• SAN JUAN TOWNHOUSE • 4BR 5TB 2CG RUSH SALE CALL: 0922-8067388 VILMA

Unit 1619, 40 sq.m.
Burgundy Transpacific
Taft Avenue, Manila
(fronting DLSU)
Patrick:0917-5394909

•VILLA HELENA•
85 9th Avenue, Cubao QC
ONLY FEW UNITS LEFT
(110 meters away to Araneta Ctr)
(Construction on-going)
ALL CONCRETE, 4 LEVELS
1CAR GARAGE, 4-BR 4TB
P3.3 M ONLY
913-1737 / 426-6266
426-6531 / 439-6921
0927-3767064
0920-9020858

Wack' 3br 2car 641-2903

GILMORE CONDO P2.6M TERMS 57.5M² 09178907991

LOT

562m² Loc. Binangonan Clean TCT•0917-8986809

609sqm 8M Neg. 412-0256 9-12 Sundays Araneta Ave.

★TAGAYTAY OVERLOOKING
★15%DP 5yrs 0%Int. w/Free
★Membership Worth P425T
★0917-6428542 • Pls. Call

★WELCOME BALIKBAYAN ★
SUN VALLEY SUBD
ANTIPOLO 20%DP 5YRS
Zero Interest 0917-6428542

LAGUNA BEL-AIR III
149m² 0915-9960742 0918-4229843

LOT FOR SALE
566 SQM P15,000/SQM
#24 F. MANALO ST. CUBAO
QUEZON CITY, CALL
REYNOLD • 0917-8064108

Mac-Arthur Highway Dalandanan, Valenzuela City 13000 sqm Industrial Lot w/ old bodega, new truck-weighing scale, office res & fully fence P3900sqm call Danny 0922-8900008

Mandaluyong 1875 M² 8983151

ORCHARD resl estates Golf&Country Club Dasma Cavite Ph2 514m² @3K/m² Resl/Indl lot 4000m² Gen. Luis QC 3500/m² AUROUS 6391694 6870312 / 0917-8102903

SN PEDRO LAGUNA
573m²@P3th/m² neg
658-5751 Tessie Ofc hrs

•TAGAYTAY•
1,000m²@P6th/m² Neg
658-5751 Tessie Ofc hrs

TALAYAN VILLAGE QC 460SQM PASIAN ST 0920-9128958

ORCHARD resl estates Golf & Country Club Dasma Cavite Ph2 514m² @ 3K/m² Resl/Indl lot 4000m² Gen. Luis QC @3500/m² AUROUS 6391694 6870312 / 0917-8102903

COMMERCIAL

8M/BLDG. OR 15 M FOR 2 BLDG. C-5211025/09063080769 Pasay

MEMORIAL LOT

COLUMBARY GARDEN VAULTS
In Visayas Avenue, Q.C.
0918-8491952

HOLY CROSS MEMORIAL LOT 0916-4504088

RUSH 36L LOY-P' 09164834182

FARM/FISHPEN/ RAWLANDS

HOG FARM AMPARO VILL CAL W/ BLDG 400 SQM 600T NEG 0916-4504088

Piggery 4358087 9167905900

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT
VACANT LOT
Area : 7,997 sqm.
P70/sqm/month+VAT
Long Term Lease
Ninoy Aquino Avenue
San Dionisio Paranaque
Tels : 818-2781;751-5472
Cel : 0916-5582538

Comml/Office Spaces for lease (37m²-627m²)887-6003

COMMERCIAL/ RESIDENTIAL

RESIDENTIAL / COMMERCIAL FOR RENT 9530 KALAYAAN TEL 7501025 / 7790048

HOUSE

3BR 7800 SN PEDRO 5209296

•Big house nr UP 952-2036

HOUSE W/A 2CAR GARAGE & LARGE LAWN IN CAINTA RIZAL, 5MINS FR. MASINAG MARKET P9.3K/MO. 9488003

MAGALLANES 09209126709

Sta. Lucia St. Mand 3br 1tb w/Grg P10T 534-7689

WACK' GOLFVIEW 3BR 3TB Powder Rm 2-car garage 6355524

CONDO/TWNHSE

19L EASTWOOD EXCELSIOR Studio P12T 9132123-25

CONDO 4 RENT 8967206

EASTWOOD STUDIO MAKATI PALACE 09178171214

EISENHOWER GHILLS P11T 7267615 / 09062864175

MKT. CONDOS 09209126709

Sime Condo P12T 2BDRMS
Salas Teres P4T 1BDRMS C.R
Kitchen Teres Tel 5338536

TWNHSE nr. GHILLS MEGMAL 230sqm, 3BRm, 3T&B, Maids w/T&B, Patio, 2Carpark Good Neighborhood P48T/mo. 533-1776 • 725-0901

WEDGWOOD 2BR Q.C. 10T 8983151/0920-9021427

CUBAO, COLUMBIA 2BR Furn P12TH/MO SAVELL 646-1603

APARTMENT

1 & 2BR Nr.PGH 5634007/5891978

2BR APT PALM VILLAGE •0920-9039193•

2BR2DR 2sty 5CGRG QCHall Mcdo Heart Ctr 044-7111907

2BR/2TB/Grge P10T/mo. 160 Sct. Limbaga 4105366

Bnew Apartment
2BR 1T&B w/Garage
TSora Carmel V Subd.
P10T-12T 09169221630

SEMI FURNISH
STUDIO TYPE
2985 H SANTOS
MKT CITY BRG CARMONA
8993679/09195746242
09273769441

Short Stay? Balikbayan?
Full Service Apartments
1BR P1.5T/day 2BR P2.4T/day 5-20% discounts, Long Term 21 Timog QC • T#375-6141

FOR LEASE

87.50 sqm 1 Bedroom Unit w/Terrace, Club & Parking; Fully furn; Amorsolo Twr Rockwell ; Call 8906803

FOR RENT
3 Salcedo 2302
Fully-Furnish w/ Parking
Call Myrna 8931043

WAREHOUSE SPACES FOR LEASE, DIFFERENT SIZES AVAILABLE.CALL 3306951 TO 55.LOOK FOR JOY

ROOM & BOARD

•FURNISH PASAY 8872865•

ROOM 4 RENT PROJ.8 CONGRESSIONAL FEMALE ONLY 3TH W/ WATER/ELEC/MAYCOOK 09198213729 / 4531217

BEDSPACE

Mkti nr Ayala 1T Lady 8974697

Now Bedspaces 4 Ladies Call 8435555 or 09178986809

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

BEDSPACE

P1800 bedspace IncH2O/lites Tsora/Mind ave 09178222765

BUSINESS RENTAL

MAKATI nr BUENDIA
38/85/148/185m² 8903461 ofc hrs

LOAN & MORTGAGE

•Busines •Doctor •Car •OFW Seaman •Real Est 524-3197

TRANSPORTATION FOR SALE

BMW X5 4.6is SAV 2004 automatic, 25,000 km, as new condition. P4M, Estoril Blue. •Contact Jackie 814-1447•

•BNEW SENTRA 25DP X-TRAIL 30DP URVAN 60DP 09172587749•

CARS

'00 EXPEDITION BLUE 635-5942 OR 0917-8353779

02 Trooper A/T DSL A1-Cond 45K kms 950K 09173468460

03Hilux 4x4 35Tkm 9511989

03Revo SR 490T 09184238154

2000 Accord VIII A/T
Leathr seat P460K
807-0929 or 09178440929

2001 Cefiro A/T P460K
807-0929 / 09178440929

2001 FORD EXPLORER SPORTRAC 4X4, AT, V6
Full Accesories, Leather
1st Owner, Casa Maintained,
EP#6 • P615,000.00
0920-9625538

'95 VANETTE P140T
Good Cond • 0917-6259488

97 Civic VTI A/T 253K 7477382

99 NISSAN SENTRA EXS 1.4 P250T NEG 6412964 09178052017

•AUDI A4 2000 AUG 09178335763

Volvo S70 Dec '99 Black 82 Km at Sunroof 650K 0917-8587929

'98 VTEC M/T Fresh 298N 6264947

OTHER CAR BRANDS

BERYLLE CARS
Araneta Ctr Cubao nr All Mall finance Trde-in consignment Pajero Trooper Lite-TownAce Delica Serena Largo Estima Safari Surf Fargo RVR MU Terrano Odyssey Suzuki Elf Canter 4-6W etc slot rental 439-1117 / 0917-8342020

PARTS & ACCESSORIES

20% DISCOUNT!
Engine Tune-up
Wheel Align, Balancing
Brakes, Camber Conversion
Credit cards honored
Rubbervolt 77 Vis. Ave QC
36 West Ave. 9201794/95

TRANSPORTATION FOR RENT

VANS 9226702 9214535

CARS FOR RENT

Cheap Van 9330311;9348411

LUZVIMIN MB100 913-2084

TOYCO CARS SUV VANS Rental
Dly Wkly Monthly Rental
Mnl. 8023021-22 CEBU (032)
3451802 DAVAO (082)2358375

CAR LOAN

1% AUTOLOAN 788-0361

1% Car Lending 6560140 United Tree Car Loan Corp.

1% CARLOAN 373-6519

1% Easy Car Loan 4112547/48

1% Sangla ur Car 5344441

1% w/out taking car 5315577

1.5% Easy Car Loan 3748765

1.5% easy carloan 7815352/55

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3650974/75

1.5% w/oTaking Car 3732081/82

2% W/O TAKING CAR 7723810/12

2% W/O TAKING CAR 7880183-84

2% w/oTaking Car 8959454

2% w/oTaking Car 8966630/33

2% w/oTaking Car 7221021

2% w/out taking car 7262780

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

BILLIARDS

B'LIARD TBLE 33T-UP 8014494

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

YAMAHA GRAND & UPRIGHT
ELITE PIANO CENTER
Like New TERMS -T7213124

OTHER EQUIPMENT

DENTAL UNIT Sale P20T 532-1134

PETS

DOG TRAINER 0919-7219020

•PUGS • SHARPEI ! 3725231

PCCI
ANNOUNCEMENT
Excerpt from order of
Mandaluyong RTC BR 212
WHEREFORE, premises
Considered Plaintiff
(Plaridel Products)
Application for issuance of
a Writ of Preliminary Injunction
is DENIED for lack of merit.
The status quo order issued
by this Court
(Hon. Rizalina Capco-Umali),
On May 12, 2006 is hereby
LIFTED. SO ORDERED.
N.B. You may now
Register your Dog

WANTED TO BUY

A NAME YOU CAN TRUST!
MANILA WATCH EXCHANGE
BUY • SELL • PAWN
ROLEX+OTHERS
& OTHER SWISS WATCHES
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SWISS WATCHES
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LOW 5% INTEREST
AGENCIA DE MAKATI 889-7956

WE BUY AT HIGH PRICE
ROLEX
HIS & HERS Watch Center
GoldCrest Bldg., Glorietta - 2
5646593 5897041 0917-8473744

PROFESSIONAL & CREDIBLE
PAWN*BUY*SELL
+
WATCHES
BEST APPRAISAL
Secondo Glorietta 1
Tel# 894-0282
Agencia de Makati
Tel# 889-7956

PUBLIC NOTICES

AUCTION SALE

MUNOZ-BRIONES PAWNSHOP
Auction
July 5, 2006
All unredeemed articles
from Feb. 1-28, 2006
354 Roosevelt Ave QC 9AM
109 Dela Rosa Makati 10AM
VZamora-Auctioneer

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is herby given that the Estate of EDUARDO T. SUVA who died intestate was settled extra-judicially among heirs before Notary Public Atty. Ruben T.M. Ramirez of Makati City Doc.#498:Page#101; Book#101,Series of 2006.
(PDI-June 11,18 & 25'06)

Notice is hereby given that Philex Mining "B" Certificate No. B0194805-84, 750 share under Peter Chua was declared lost. If no contest received in 1yr. new certificate will be issued (PDI-June 11, 18, 25, 2006)

Notice is Hereby Given that the Estate of the late HILARION RONGAVILLA was extrajudicially settled among Heirs Before Notary Public Luis S. Salas of Pasay City Doc. #407 Page 82 "Book#1,Series of 2006
(PDI June 18,25 & July 2'06)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late ANGELO A. OBCENA who died in estate was settled extra-judicially among heirs before Public Atty. Paulino I. Saguyod of Paniqui, Tarlac Doc#83 Page#17 Book#III Series of 2006.
(PDI - June 18, 25 & July 2, 2006)

NOTICE is hereby given that the ESTATE OF THE LATE CHARLIE E. CORONEL had been the subject of a Deed of EXTRA-JUDICIAL SETTLEMENT of Estate WITH WAIVER OF RIGHTS /INTERESTS Among the HEIRS under Doc. No. 77 Page No. 17 Book No. III Registry of Atty. Wendell E. Coronel of Makati City.
(PDI June 18, 25&July 2,2006)

PUBLIC NOTICES

LEGAL NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that the intestate estate of the late FRANCISCO R. CLEMENTE who died in Milwaukee,-State of Wisconsin,USA,on February 21,1970,has been settled estrajudicially among his heirs in an EXTRAJUDICIAL SETTLEMENT OF ESTATE WITH WAIVER AND/OR QUITCLAIM,dated March 2006,pursuant to section1,Rule 74 of the Rules of Court,and acknowledged before the Philippine Consulate in Chicago USA,before Consul Patrick John U. Hilado,on April 25,2006
(PDI- June 25,July 2&'06)

Notice is hereby given that the estate of the late MARINA G. BERNABE was extrajudicially settled w/ waiver of rights among her heirs as per Doc #267, Page #54, Book #24, Series of 2006 under Notary Public Gaudencio Barboza at Pasig City
(PDI- June 18, 25, July 2, 2006)

NOTICE OF LOSS

Notice is hereby given that EXPORT AND INDUSTRY BANK, INC. Stock Certificate#2955 with 135,000 shares issued to Estela V. Kong was declared lost. If no contest is received, new certificate will be issued.
(PDI- June 11, 18 & 25, 2006

Notice is hereby given that Commonwealth Foods, Inc. Cert.#564 for 500 shares:#565 for 500 shares:#566 for 500 shares;#567 for 20 shares & #905 for 846 shares issued in the name of Dee K. Chiong were reported lost. If no contest received, new certificates will be issued.
(PDI-June 11,18 & 25, 2006)

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

FRESA FROZEN VAC PACKE TUNA LOINS FR. GEN. SAN P150/KG AGENTS WELCOME 632-0127

GOURMET BANGUS PRODUCER

Looking for Territorial
Distributors Mostly in
Q.C.,Manila,Alabang,
Paranaque,Caloocan,Batangas,
Cavite,Subic Clark,
Baguio,Cebu,Davao,and
Cagayan De Oro for more Details
Pls. Contact : Alma Rivera
Office No. :
•(632) 843 4991 Loc. 165•
Mobile No. :
•0921-271-33-98•

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Building Manager/Guard
College Grad P8 5T 375-6141

DERMA CLINIC ATTENDANT
Pls. call at 534-3673

FASHION DESIGNER (male)
Call 721-5611 ; 722-0876

Female Accounting Clerk
W/ 2 Years Experience
Needed Urgent 8525750+

HIRING PHONE TUTOR BELOW 30'S OLD SPEAK ENGLISH FLUENTLY MUST BE COMPUTER LITERATE 5218329 5244393 STEVEN

We Provide ICU Nurse, Underboard Nurse, Registred & Underboard Midwife, Caregivers and Baby Sitters to Home and Hospitals Call ASAP 419-4223 / 419-4217

IMMEDIATE HIRING !
Techers and Tutors
Grad of Educ. Course
Fluent : English:Writing &
Oral /Let Passer
Experienced-Advantage/New
Grad are Welcome! Bring D FF
Resume / TOR / Diploma /2x2
Picture / NBI / Address :
SouthWest LRNG CTR INC.
Alpap 2 Bldg Rm 201-205
Madrigal Bus Park Ayala
. Alabang Tel 809-79-57

Male Acct Exec
Optical Product/Supplies W/ Exp
NCR/Provl 8525750

Male Acct Exec
Infant Garments VisMin Area
W/ experience 8525750

Male Acct Exec
Infant.Garments Divisoria & Baclaran W/Exp 8525750

Sewer MTO /Beader #6Balete Drive 721-5611 ; 722-0876

SEWERS KNT/WOVEN Subcon Finishers Ofc Staff T9276197

THERAPISTS - 9105410

Urgently needed: Pre-school teachers T5327316 / 5324243

FREE CAREGIVER COURSE 5280730 5280747 3026893

CAREGIVER COURSE STUDY NOW PAY LATER-3026893 5280730 3026840

CAREGIVER-3026893

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INVITATION TO BID

The AFP Retirement and Separation Benefits System (RSBS) invites interested parties to purchase by way of sealed bids the following properties on cash or term basis (minimum 30% down payment and 16% interest rate per annum, maximum of 7 years to pay):

Item No.	Description	Location	Minimum / Floor Price
06-1	259.7 sqm residential lot	No. 12 Rimas St., Proj 2, Q.C.	P 2,428,195.00
06-2	4 residential lots 300 sqm each	Bgy Pimienta, Umingan, Pangasinan	P 455,855.00
06-3	2 residential lots 500 sqm each	Bgy Prado, Umingan, Pangasinan	P 243,600.00
06-4	9,448 sqm Industrial Lot	Bulacan Agro Industrial Subdivision Calumpit, Bulacan	P 30,516,700.00
06-5	367 sqm residential lot	L12, B6, Snra. De la Paz Subd. Sumulong, Antipolo	P 892,500.00
06-6	House & Lot F/A 152 sqm L/A 208 sqm	L22, B24, Phase II, Soldier's Hills Subd., Muntinlupa City	P 707,200.00
06-7	3,000 sqm residential lot 13,000 sqm agri lot	Bgy. Canimog, Romblon, Romblon	P 1,538,310.00
06-8	House & Lot F/A 42 sqm L/A 120 sqm	L45 & 47, B4, Alpha Street Northmatrixville Subd., Caloocan	P 509,320.00
06-9	322 sqm residential lot	L70, B1-A Diamond Heights Victoria Homes, Muntinlupa City	P 547,400.00
06-10	House & Lot F/A 142 sqm L/A 134 sqm	Sapang Palay, San Jose del Monte, Bulacan	P 346,239.21
06-11	House & Lot F/A 138 sqm L/A 143 sqm	B7, L3, North Matrixvile, Camarin Rd., Caloocan City	P 963,007.50
06-12	House & Lot F/A 618.98 sqm L/A 2,607 sqm	29 Sunflower Dr, Beverly Hills, Taytay, Rizal	P 7,081,592.76
06-14	294 sqm Residential Lot	B3, L8, Filinvest, Bgy Silangan, Capitol, Quezon City	P 1,374,450.00
06-15	278,369 sqm raw land with CARP Exemption	Bgy Sulpok, Tanauan, Batangas	P 350.00 / sqm
06-16	188,351 sqm raw land with CARP Exemption	Bgy Malaking Pulo, Tanauan, Batangas	P 350.00 / sqm
06-17	106,073 sqm raw land with CARP Exemption	Bgy Dona Jacoba, Tanauan, Batangas	P 350.00 / sqm
06-18	35,138 sqm raw land with CARP Exemption	Bgy Suplang, Tanauan, Batangas	P 350.00 / sqm
06 -19	450,000 sqm raw land with DAR Conversion	Bgy Batas, Silang, Cavite (beside Riviera Golf & Sports Club)	P 800.00 / sqm
06-20	450,162 sqm raw land with DAR Conversion	Bgy Batas, Silang, Cavite (beside Riviera Golf & Sports Club)	P 800.00 / sqm
06-21	132,189 sqm residential raw land	Bgy Mapalad, Sta. Rosa, Nueva Ecija (near Fort Magsaysay)	P 400 / sqm
06- 22	17,996 sqm commercial lot	Acharon Blvd., General Santos City	P 17,000.00 / sqm
06-23	2,584 sqm commercial lot	Acharon Blvd., General Santos City	P 17,000.00 / sqm
06-24	5,065 sqm commercial lot	Acharon Blvd., General Santos City	P 17,000.00 / sqm
06-25	6,465 sqm commercial lot	Acharon Blvd., General Santos City	P 17,000.00 / sqm
06-26	2,291 sqm commercial lot (not contiguous)	Acharon Blvd., General Santos City	P 15,000.00 / sqm

Interested bidders may obtain bidding documents starting June 26, 2006 upon payment of non-refundable fee of P500.00 from the Property Management Office, 3/F, RSBS Bldg., Camp Aguinaldo, Q.C.

A Pre-Bidding Conference is scheduled on July 5, 2006 at 10:00 AM, Central Meeting Room A, RSBS, Camp Aguinaldo, Q.C.

Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders or their representatives on July 10, 2006 at 10:00 AM at the Central Meeting Room A, RSBS, Camp Aguinaldo, Q.C.

For further inquiries, you can call MS. LIZA HIZON or MR. DARWIN MANZANO at telephone numbers 9124718 or 9114071 local 249.

(PDI - June 24, 25 & 26, 2006)

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
DepED Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City, Philippines

DepED
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Invitation to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid

1. The **Department of Education (DepED)**, through the Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) intends to apply the amount of **PHILIPPINE PESOS FIFTY SEVEN MILLION & 00/100 ONLY (Php 57,000,000.00)** representing the total Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) of various projects to payments under the contract for the **Printing (from Camera-Ready Materials) and Delivery of Various Instructional Materials to DepED** – Division Offices hereinafter called the "GOODS" indicated below:

Package	Title	Quantities	Approved Budget for the Contract	Enduser
1	6 titles for Readers for Grade 1	50,000 copies each title	Php 6,000,000.00	Bureau of Elementary Education (BEE)
2	2 titles for Readers for Grade 2	50,000 copies each title	Php 11,000,000.00	
3	Elementary Lessons Guides for Grade 1 to 6	50,000 copies for each grade level	Php 30,000,000.00	
4	Preschool Education Handbook for Teachers (PEHT)	15,000 copies	Php 1,100,000.00	
5	18 titles for Basic Level Literacy Program	5,000 copies each title	Php 1,200,000.00	Bureau of Alternative Learning Systems (BALS)
6	32 titles for Session Guides for A & E Core Modules (Elementary Level)	5,000 copies each title	Php 2,200,000.00	
7	64 titles for Session Guides for A & E Core Modules (Secondary Level)	5,000 copies each title	Php 5,500,000.00	
Grand total **APPROVED BUDGET FOR THE CONTRACT (ABC)**			Php 57,000,000.00	

Bidders can opt to bid per package or the complete package. Bids received in excess of the ABC per package will be rejected.

2. Estimated Supply and Delivery Completion Period: 120 days. Indicative Printing and Delivery Dates: October 2006 to January 2007. The description of an eligible bidder is contained in Section II of the Bidding Documents, ITB.
3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using non-discretionary pass/fail criteria as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations Part A (IRR-A) of Republic Act 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act," and is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interests or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar right or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to Republic Act 5183 (R.A. 5183) and subject to Commonwealth Act 138 (C.A. 138). The process for the eligibility check is described in Section II, Instruction to Bidders of the Bidding Documents.
4. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested bidders starting on **June 26, 2006** until **August 9, 2006** at the BAC Secretariat, Procurement Service, Room 508, 5th Floor, Mabini Building, DepED Complex, Pasig City, upon payment in cash of a non-refundable fee in the amount of **Philippine Pesos Four Thousand & 00/100 Only (Php4,000.00)**. Information is also available at http://www.deped.gov.ph or www.procurementservice.org or call DepED-PS at Tel. no. 636-6543 or Fax No. 633-93-43.
5. The **DepED-BAC** shall hold a Pre-Bid Conference open to all interested parties on **July 27, 2006, 10:00 a.m.** at the **Bulwagan ng Karunungan, DepED Complex, Pasig City.**
6. Bids must be received on or before **August 10, 2006**, 10:00 a.m. at the **Bulwagan ng Karunungan, DepED Complex, Meralco Ave., Pasig City.** Late Bids shall be rejected. Bids will be opened on this date, time and venue in the presence of bidder's representatives who choose to attend.
7. The **DepED-BAC** reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, and to annul the bidding process and reject all bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or bidders.

(Sgd.) ATTY. MACUR D. MAROHOMBSAR
BAC Vice Chairperson

(PDI - June 25 & July 2, 2006)

TransCo

NATIONAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION

South Luzon Operation and Maintenance
San Vicente, Biñan, Laguna, Philippines 4024

SF-2

INVITATION TO BID FOR THE SALE OF VARIOUS OBSOLETE AND UNSERVICEABLE MATERIALS ON 'AS IS, WHERE IS" BASIS

A-DATE AND TIME OF BIDDING : JULY 10, 2006 AT 1:30 P.M.
B-PLACE OF BIDDING : 1. SL O&M WAREHOUSE OFFICE, San Vicente, Biñan, Laguna
2. District III Admin Office, Daraga, Albay.
C-PRE-BID CONFERENCE : July 4, 2006 at 10:00 A.M.
D-VENUE : SLOM Warehouse Office, Biñan, Laguna
E-CONTRACT CODE NO. : [TRANS-SLOM-07-10-06-PB]

The National Transmission Corporation, South Luzon Operations and Maintenance, San Vicente, Biñan, Laguna will conduct a simultaneous bidding for the sale of the following:

LOT #	PARTICULAR	LOCATION	MINIMUM BID PRICE
1	One (1) Lot of: Obsolete line hardware, S/S equipment & assorted power Switchboard parts composed of 330 line items. Cross arm Brace, step bolts, guard guy wire, rod inter phase, opera- rod, hydraulic hose, insulator-CAO515MC, handle manual With screw, clamp parallel groove, plate chamber, anchor bolt, CT Bushings, ABS rod, wire connector, shackle, Walkie-talkie, telephone filed, swivel, compass pocket, meter field, long rod insulators, moister eater, cleaner solvent, gloss restorer, patching kit bond, condenser bushing, power transistors, resistors, bearing GCB, power amplifier board, sealing compound, filter absorber, sensor, current sensor module, module with 4 timer, Measuring transducer, input-output measuring, plug tests static protective field service kit, converter module, current Yoko, IC, Interconnecting board, transistor board, capacitor Board, crossbar, terminal, buss fuse, glass fuse, test relay attachment, check pin, relay tests, lead wire, power supply unit, cable with connector, CPU module, modules, spare witch board, converters, amp, sync amp, mod, Demod, timer One shot, arrester 3 electrode, PS 46 DC, MBB trans-4, REC, Logic, relay card exit, power amp, RYCOM, textronix scope, BP, DN conv, male plug, liner relay test attachment, holder, 0Extractor, tools, transducers, MCCB, filter, buzzer, key box, accessories, test terminal stud, link rod, diodes, variator, Signal lamp, test terminal devices, studs, link rod, Terminal lock, counter, pins, assorted CB Printed, detecting unit, PT Unit, control unit, on/off unit, CT unit, insulator, scanning Bear unit co controller, mechanical unit & printer inter phase, single phase adjusted TRP, Phase shifter, phase voltage DC regulator, fault condition controller, resistance box, ABS, insulators, meters, bushing, etc. per IIR dated 3/29/05.	BIÑAN & KALAYAAN S/S WAREHOUSES, LAGUNA.	P 2,459,000.00 /Lot
2	One (1) Lot of: Scrap Vehicle parts and retired/ returned burnt and waste transmission line materials	BIÑAN STORAGE AREA BIÑAN, LAGUNA	P 14,800.00 /Lot
3	One (1) Lot of: Scrap/Returned/Retired Line materials & S/S equipment: insulators, fuses, DS, lightning arresters, water tank, pipes, toilet bowl, telephone wires, PT, CT, fire extinguishers, OCB, Tires, steel fabricated post, etc.	DISTRICT-II STORAGE AREA, CALAMBA, LAGUNA	P 23,700.00 /Lot
4	One (1) Lot of: Scrap/Retired Steel Towers, OHGW, insulators, porcelain & glass.	NEW MAKBAN S/S, BITIN, BAY, LAGUNA	P 188,000.00 /Lot
5	One (1) Lot of: Scrap / Used / Returned / Retired vehicle parts, laboratory and testing equipment, computer, printer, etc.	PSMD-NORTH CALAMBA, LAGUNA	P 84,000.00 /Lot
7	One (1) Lot of: Assorted Scrap/Retired/Returned laboratory, test equipment and materials: auto spare parts, tires, chairs, CPU, monitor, key board, printers, steel Cabinets, glass cut truck, PT, CT, Station/ distribution transformers, Capacitor voltage transformer, meter, Relay, telephone cable, ACU, rectifier, GI corrugated sheet, pulse, vislight, UPS relay test, IR scanner, variable Transformer, avometer, mini UPS, etc.	PSMD-SOUTH DARAGA, ALBAY	P 81,500.00 /Lot
8	One (1) Lot of: Assorted Obsolete and Scrap/returned/retired materials and equipment: Transformers, current and potential, LA, bus supports, cutter, jack, blower, rachet, skull guard, screwdriver, rain boots, safety shoes, pruner, battery charger, UPS, clock, auto parts, aircon units, dynamo, motor, CT bushing, lighting fixtures, V-blind, mother board, hard disk, tables & chairs, CPU, radio, polisher, projector, sterilizers, typewriter, tires and flaps, etc.	ALSOR S/S DARAGA, ALBAY	P 180,676.00 /Lot
9	One (1) Lot of: Obsolete, scrap materials and equipment: Arresters, coil, filler paper, cold welding kit, cooling, terminal block channel dowel, fan, grease, locktite, gal, crimper, gasket, Genset, oxide, bearing, gauges, graph, bolt, meter, o-rings, pin, piston, plug, wire, bulb, connector, relay, ring, rod, rope, seal, spacer, swich, thermometer, scrap tower parts, steel window, polymer insulator, lighting fixtures, empty cylinder, perimeter post, lavatory, steel cabinet, relay cubicles, guy wire, draw out breaker, ACU package type, tires, g.i. sheets, office tables, steel drums, busted transfomer.	NAGA SUBSTATION NAGA, CAMARINES SUR	P 113,500.00 /Lot
10	One (1) Lot of: Assorted Scrap/Retired/Returned Items: Engine, welding machine, fuse cut out, compressor, vacuum cleaner, tires, empty steel drums, capacitors, chair mono block, plastic water container-5 gal. cap. Calculator, stapler, ruler, diskette box, glass top, cutter, scissors, mountain bike parts, kitchen utensils, air pot, rice cooker, water dispenser, stove, drafting table, chair, mechanical and electrical materials, drill bits, hacksaw, welding goggles, ear plug, smoothing plate, pallet, plier, valve plate, bearing, sport materials housekeeping materials: bolo, shovels, wheel barrow, computer, CPU, monitor, keyboard, mouse, printer, telephone set, pulse transformers, scanner, battery for alarm system, cartridges, busted bulbs, CD writer, HP SDWR, pressurized water pump "Karcher", Toyota Lift Back Sedan, assorted steel plates, OGW, etc.	NAGA HVDC NAGA, CAMARINES SUR	P 36,000.00 /Lot
11	One (1) Lot of: Assorted Obsolete/ Scrap / Retired / Returned materials and equipment: Wires, shield for 3/8" dia., internal injection pump nozzle, overhead ground wire, wire rope, bended tower parts with line hardware, capacitor voltage potential device, power circuit breaker, insulator porcelain, aircon units package type, assorted line materials.	LABO SUBSTATION LABO, CAM. NORTE	P 794,100.00 /Lot

REQUIREMENTS FOR ISSUANCE OF BID DOCUMENTS:

The Bid Documents shall be issued to bidders upon application and payment of a non-refundable fee of P 250.00 per set.

Sealed bids in the prescribed form shall be received until 1:30 PM on July 10, 2006 at the National Transmission Corporation, SLOM Warehouse Office, San Vicente, Biñan, Laguna and District III Admin Office, Daraga, Albay and shall there be opened and publicly read.

ALL BIDS MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE FOLLOWING:

FIRST ENVELOPE 1. BID PROPOSAL IN THE PRESCRIBED PRICE QUOTATION FORM
SECOND ENVELOPE: 1. LATEST INCOME TAX RETURN (ITR)/COC-P/TW-YEAR-2005 OF THE BIDDER OR AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE COMPANY (ORIGINAL OR BIR STAMPED-RECEIVED COPY).
2. PROPOSAL BOND DEPOSIT IN THE FORM OF CASH, MANAGER'S/CASHIER'S CHECK EQUIVALENT TO TEN PERCENT (10%) OF THE TOTAL BID PRICE.

Additional Information and/or Request for Inspection may be obtained/secured from Transco-SL O&M Warehouse Office, Administration Division, C/O Mr. Jason J. Degollado, Sr. Property Officer or call Tel. No. (02) 981-45-39 or (02) 981-45-76 to 78 local 4009 and District III Admin Office, Daraga, Albay C/O Ms. Salve Nuylan, Admin Chief, with Telephone No. 981-45-39 local 4210.

Issuance of Bid Documents will start on June 26, 2006 until July 09, 2006.

The Corporation reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any formality found therein and to accept such proposal as may be advantageous to its interest

(Sgd.) RENE D. RAMAS
CHAIRMAN
Regional Asset Management Sub-Committee

(PDI – June 25, 2006)

Department of Environment and Natural Resources

Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission

2/F Engineering Building, MWSS Compound
Katipunan Road, Balara, Quezon City
Telephone Nos. +632 9265233; +632 4333446
Telefax Nos.+632 9265234;+632 4333444

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Project	Pasig River Environmental Management and Rehabilitation Sector Development Program (PAREMAR)
Loan No.	Asian Development Bank (ADB) Loan No. 1746-PHI
Description of Works	Construction and Development of Brgy. Vergara Revetment Wall Project in Brgy. Vergara , Mandaluyong City

1. The Government of the Philippines (GOP) has received a loan from the ADB toward the cost of PAREMAR and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan, together with the GOP counterpart funds, to payments under the Contract for the Construction and Development of Brgy. Vergara Revetment Wall Project in Brgy. Vergara , Mandaluyong City.
2. The Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission (PRRC) as the executing agency now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the following contract package:

Contract Package	Construction and Development of Brgy. Vergara Revetment Wall Project in Brgy. Vergara , Mandaluyong City
Contract No.	EPA-LPP-41
Location	Brgy. Vergara, Mandaluyong City
Contract Duration	240 Calendar Days
Project Description	Construction and Development of Stepped Design Revetment Wall, which include the following items of work: Earthworks, Topbeam, Inclined Wall with Steps, Pile Cap, Sheet Piling Works and Railings.

3. Interested Bidders shall secure the Bid Documents and submit bids as follows:

Activity	*Date*	*Time*	*Venue*
Securing of (a) Eligibility Checklist or (b) submission of Letter of Intent and purchase of complete set of Bid Documents upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Php 11,500.00	From June 22 to 30, 2006	From 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.	PRRC, 2F MWSS Engineering Bldg. Katipunan Road, Old Balara, Quezon City
Securing of additional eligibility information (if any) and inspection of Bidding Documents	From June 22 to 30, 2006	From 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.	
Site Inspection	July 04, 2006	10:00 a.m.	ARCYA Compound Brgy. Vergara,Mandaluyong City
Pre-Bid Conference	July 04, 2006	2:00 p.m.	PRRC, 2F MWSS Engineering Bldg. Katipunan Road, Old Balara, Quezon City
Deadline for submission of Bids	August 4, 2006	10:00 a.m.	PRRC, 2F MWSS Engineering Bldg. Katipunan Road, Old Balara, Quezon City
Opening of Bids	August 4, 2006	10:30 a.m.	PRRC, 2F MWSS Engineering Bldg. Katipunan Road, Old Balara, Quezon City

4. The City of Mandaluyong shall be the implementing agency of the Contract.
5. Bidding will be conducted in accordance with relevant procedures for open competitive bidding as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act 9184 (R.A. 9184), otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act", to the extent it is consistent with Asian Development Bank's procurement procedures and is open to all Bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the *"Guidelines for Procurement Under Asian Development Bank Loans"*.
6. The documents required in the Eligibility Documents shall be submitted as part of the Technical Documents of the Bidders as provided in the Instructions to Bidders.
7. The Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid and to annul the bidding process and reject all Bids at anytime prior to Contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders.

(Sgd.) BINGLE H.B. GUTIERREZ
Executive Director

Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission
2F, MWSS Engineering Bldg. Katipunan Road, Old Balara, Quezon City 1105
Tel. Nos. 433-3447 and 926-5234
Email Address: prrc@tri-isys.com
Fax No. 926-5234

(PDI - June 18 & 25 2006)

Couples for Christ at 25

THIS JUNE, COUPLES for Christ celebrates 25 years of love, life and service to God.

Couples for Christ began in 1981 with 16 couples out of a strong desire to unite the family. From its early years as an outreach program of Ang Ligaya ng Panginoon, it has moved on to carry a rapid, massive and global approach to evangelization. In 1993, a call to build the church of the home gave birth to the Family Ministries which is the womb to tomb ministries of CFC that included the other members of the family aside from just the husband and wife. These ministries came to be known as Kids for Christ, Youth for Christ, Singles for Christ, Handmaids of the Lord and Servants of the Lord.

A deeper call to build the church of the poor brought about the birth of the Social Ministries and Gawad Kalinga. The nine social ministries are Flame Ministries (social communications), Educational Foundation Inc. (education), St. Thomas and More and Associates (socio-political renewal), Teodora (ministry for the empowerment of women), Tekton Guild (socio-economic renewal), Sword of Gideon (armed services ministry), Isaiah 61:1 (prison ministry), GKare (medical missions), Oikos Society (environment). Gawad Kalinga is CFC's work for the poor initiative, it is working to build 700,000 homes in 7,000 communities in 7 years under its GK777 campaign.

The organization has grown to be present in all provinces of the Philippines and in 151 countries worldwide. CFC has been recognized by the Vatican as an international private association for the faithful.

The month-long celebration culminates with a grand anniversary celebration at the Quirino Grandstand on June 25, 2006.

MSC alumni grand reunion '06

MSCHEVALIERS WILL hold a fraternal get-together on June 30, 2006, 8 a.m. onwards at Communication Foundation of Asia (CFA), 4427 Interior, Old Sta. Mesa, Manila.

This grand reunion is the first in the MSC family history. Those who have studied in The Sacred Heart Seminary (Lawaan, Talisay, Cebu); The Sacred Heart Seminary (Angeles City); and The MSC Formation Centers (Cebu City and Quezon City) are all invited.

For more information, contact the following: in Manila; Patrick Ignacio 0915-9358983, idusmarsus@gmail.com; Rufo Dacanay 0917-8101030, 02-8901976 (office), rcdacanay@yahoo.com; Quirimon Tan Jr 0917-8192282, 02-2450585 (office), qatan_jr@yahoo.com; in Bacolod City, Tomas Tronco, Jr. 0920-9513880, tcjr2@yahoo.com; in Davao City, Ponciano Montecillo 0918-9141052, ponsmontecillo@yahoo.com; in Cebu City, Hermelo Parot 0917-8737994. 023-2530066, meloparot@yahoo.com; and in Lapu-lapu City, Fr. Pedro Arguillas 0917-8010438, peargmsc@yahoo.com. Reunion mobile hotline is 0915-9358983 (Voice/SMS-Text).

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Address: 8395 A&B Mayapis St .Bgy.San Antonio, Makati City
Look for JEROME. (Bring updated resume & credentials)

IMPORTED RICE ARRIVES IN MASBATE
National Food Authority Masbate manager Edna de Guzman (left) together with the operations officers observes the unloading operations of a total of 25,000 bags of rice from Vietnam that arrived recently at the Masbate port. The volume is part of the 1.8 million bags allocated by the NFA for the Bicol region for distribution and food security. NFA R-5 director Rogelio Macutay, meanwhile, gave the assurance that the region has sufficient stocks to tide the region through the lean months of July to September, including the requirements for the Mt. Bulusan relief operations.

Imported rice arrives in Tabaco port

SOME 149,000 BAGS OF RICE IMported from Vietnam is set to arrive at the Tabaco City port.

The National Food Authority reported that the well-milled rice, 25 percent broken grains will be distributed in different provincial offices in the Bicol region including Albay, 28,000 bags; Camarines Norte, 16,000 bags; Catanduanes, 14,000 bags; Masbate, 25,000; and Sorsogon, 20,000 bags. The remaining 16,000 bags will form part of the regional office's buffer stocks. The volume is part of the 1.8 million bags of rice allocated for region V for distribution and security stocks.

Regional director Rogelio Macutay assured that the NFA has enough rice stocks for the region at affordable prices. NFA rice is being sold at P18 per kilogram through the agency's rolling stores, Tindahan Natin outlets, Bigasan ni Gloria sa Pelengke (BGP) and other accredited rice outlets.

Macutay also said that the food agency is ready to supply the rice requirements of areas in the region in the wake of the recent eruption of Mt. Bulusan in Sorsogon.

For more information on NFA's programs, the public may send their inquiries through the Text NFA at 0917-6210927.

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dti
DEPARTMENT OF TRADE & INDUSTRY PHILIPPINES

BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) invites all interested parties to apply for eligibility and to bid for the provision of janitorial and allied services for DTI and its attached agencies for a period of one (1) year, with an approved budget of Sixteen million pesos (Php 16,000,000.00).

Bid documents will be available for issuance starting 19 June to 3 July 2006 during office hours at the Supply Section, General Administrative Service, Ground Floor, Trade & Industry Building, 361 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City c/o Mr. Claudio H. Averilla, with telephone number 751-4996, after paying a non-refundable fee of Sixteen thousand pesos (Php 16,000.00). A pre-bid conference will be held on 3 July 2006, 9:30 A.M. at the Center Conference Room, 6th Floor, Trade & Industry Building, 361 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City.

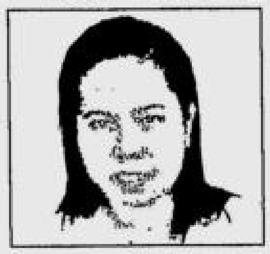
Deadline for the submission of the eligibility requirements, technical and financial proposals, and the opening of bids will be on 17 July 2006, 9:30 A.M. at the Center Conference Room, 6th Floor, Trade & Industry Building, 361 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City. The DTI Bids and Awards Committee will not entertain late bidders.

The DTI reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any minor defect therein, and accept the offer most advantageous to the government. The DTI assumes no responsibility whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expenses incurred in the preparation of their bids.

(Sgd.) MA. LOURDES T. BAUA
Assistant Secretary
Chairperson, DTI Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI – June 18 & 25, 2006)

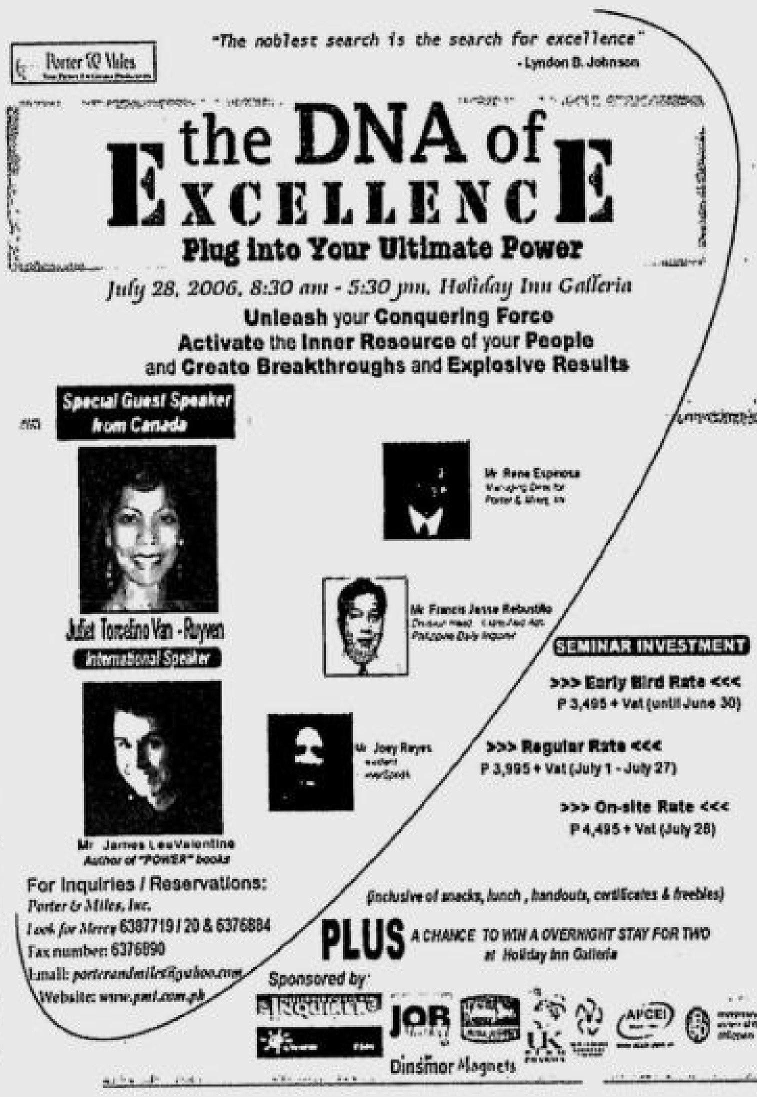
NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



DONNABELLA A. CAISIP
"DONNA"
H. Castuerras St., Poblacion, Calatagan, Batangas

A WARRANT OF ARREST was issued against Donnabella "Donna" Caisip for Qualified Theft (Criminal Case No. 5849, RTC Branch 9, Balayan, Batangas). A reward will be given to anyone who can provide information leading to the successful arrest of Ms. Caisip. Please call 0917-839-1205 or 0919-540-0440.

(PDI--June 25, 2006)



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- Lyndon B. Johnson

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INVITATION TO BID

The following properties will be offered for sale thru **PUBLIC BIDDING** on **JUNE 28, 2006.**

Asset Code	Lot Size (sqm)	TCT No.	Description	Minimum Bid Price
ANTIPOLO PMRI-L1	500	R-34963	Residential lot located in Golden Hills Subd. Bo. San Roque, Antipolo City	P400,000.00
LA UNION DC-L1	494	RT-3628	Residential lot located in Mabini St. Catbagen, San Fernando, La Union	988,000.00
NUEVA ECIJA KABF-L2	54,041	NT-306741 to 42	Agro-industrial lot located in Brgy. San Roque (now Brgy. Maghipon) Gapan, Nueva Ecija	6,593,400.00
PAMPANGA MF-L1	39,317	10412-R.P.	Agro-industrial lot located in Bo. Sto. Rosario, Minalin, Pampanga	982,925.00
QUEZON CITY MFF-L1	248	N-284532	Residential lot located in L5 B5 Baloan St. New Heaven Subd. Brgy. Kaligayahan, Novaliches, Quezon City	992,000.00
QUEZON GB-L1	200	T-370397	Residential lot located in Bo. Sabang, Catanauan, Quezon Province	100,000.00

Type of Equipment	Description	Minimum Bid Price
Isuzu Elf	Reconditioned - Plate No. XJE 465: Body Type/Color: Dropside with Canopy/Off White: Motor Engine No. Isuzu 4HF1 Diesel Engine (1 unit)**Equipment is stored in RTC Madella, Quirino Province*	200,000.00
Piping Machine	2 units – "Multi-Tech" with Serial Nos. 944569 and 945085, both made in Korea, complete with clutch motor, working table and other standard accessories (automatic)	215,000.00/unit
Hemming Machines	2 units- "Kingtex" CTL-6511 with Serial Nos. 2033104 and 2031429, both made in Taiwan, complete with clutch motor, working table and other standard accessories (automatic)	215,000.00/unit
High speed machines	9 units – "Kingtex" KL-550M/A single needle, computerized high speed machines, made in Taiwan complete with clutch motor, working table and other standard accessories with the ff. Serial Nos.: 2019041, 2027578, 0987257, 2026850, 2026841, 0987407, 0987411, 0987564 and 0987271.	51,744.00/unit

GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. Description of the above properties, bidding rules and regulations and the prescribed Bid Forms are available at the **17th Flr.139 Corporate Center, 139 Valero St. Salcedo Village, Makati City** or contact the following at **tel. no. (02)813-57-21/(02)751-1888. Messrs. Peter V. Pizarro/Santi Tullao**
2. Sealed Bid Forms will be received by RAAMG/SBGFC starting 9:00 a.m. up to 2:00 p.m on June 28, 2006
3. Each Bid Proposal shall be accompanied by cash or Certified Cashier's/Manager's Check issued in Metro Manila payable to the Small Business Guarantee and Finance Corporation (SBGFC) in the amount equivalent to 10% of the bid. Please accomplish one (1) Bid Form for every property.
4. Properties are sold on "AS IS WHERE IS BASIS", and the winning bidder shall take possession of the property without seeking assistance from SBGFC.
5. Bidders are enjoined to personally inspect/ investigate/verify the actual site and status of documents of ownership with the appropriate Register of Deeds before formally submitting their bids to ascertain their actual condition.
6. Representatives/agents are required to submit a Letter of Authorization or SPA issued by the principal buyer.
7. SBGFC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, TO WAIVE ANY FORMALITY THEREIN, ACCEPT SUCH BID AS MAY BE CONSIDERED MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE COMPANY OR CALL OFF A BIDDING PRIOR TO ITS ACCEPTANCE OF THE BIDS AND CALL FOR A NEW BID UNDER AMENDED RULES. THE DECISION OF SBGFC IS FINAL.
   All sales shall be subject to confirmation by the SBGFC Credit Committee.

(sgd.) **FE DOLORES GATUS**
Chairperson, ADC

(PDI--June 11, 18 & 25, 2006)

SIGNING of the MEMORANDUM of AGREEMENT AMONG TransCo, NCIP and INDIGENOUS CULTURAL COMMUNITIES Within REGION X

TRANSCO SIGNED MOA WITH NCIP
The National Transmission Corporation (Transco) recently signed in Cagayan de Oro a Multipartite Memoranda of Agreement for the P 8.15 billion Mindanao Backbone Transmission Project. The signing of the MOAs paves the way for the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples' (NCIP) issuance of a Certification Precondition, which will allow Mindanao's biggest power transmission project to traverse approximately 45 kilometers of ancestral domain areas. Once completed on December 2007, the Abaga-Kirahon-Maramag-Bunawan transmission project will strengthen and increase reliability of Mindanao's power grid to sustain the momentum of Mindanao's industrial development. Transco President and CEO Dr. Alan T. Ortiz (4th from left) assured the indigenous communities that they will get their rightful share of economic development for the said project. "This is a partnership that will last forever. Shown from left are VP-PMO Mr. Dominador Geonzon, Palalan Higaonon Tribal Chief Datu "Macapanton" Danilo Narido, Matigsalog-Manobo Tribe President Datu Roelito Gawilan, Dr. Alan T. Ortiz, Mindanao Economic Development Council (MEDCO) Chair Virgilio Leyretana, and Datu Alfredo Gawilan.

OBITUARIES

Death Notice

A. Judith Ledesma
Died at the age of 58.
Her remains lie in state at Parish of the Shrine of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Broadway, Q.C.
Interment will be today at the crypt of Mount Carmel.

Hermelinda Dizon
Died on June 21, 2006
Her remains lie at the Chapel of Hope Rolling Hills Memorial Park, Bacolod City.
Interment will be on Monday, June 26, 2006 at Carmelite Monastery, Mandalagan, Bacolod City

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Our Dearly Beloved

JUDGE POMPEYO L. PALARCA

(August 18, 1921 – June 22, 2006)

Peacefully joined our Lord
on June 22, 2006
at the age of 84.

His loving wife, **Pilar**; children **Gerardo & Esmeralda, Gigi & Joel, Butch, Maybelin & Filman, Teresa & Rudy**; his 24 grandchildren and great grandchildren and all relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His body lies in state at Nacional Memorial Homes, G. Araneta Ave., Quezon City and to be transferred to Cosmopolitan Memorial Chapel, Iligan City today, June 25, 2006.

Interment will be on June 28, 2006 at Maria Christina Garden, Hinaplanon, Iligan City.

JESUS EMMANUEL BASA PIMENTEL

Former Vice Governor, Governor and Congressman of Camarines Norte

December 25, 1940 – June 22, 2006

His beloved wife **Puring**; children **Jonah** & **Bembem**, **Jepoy** (†), **Jay** & **Sonia**; grandchildren **Jep Jep**, **Jemboy** and **Jessie**; brother **Danny**; sister **Luz**, **Lina**, **Mally** and **Liza** relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the Pimentel ancestral home at Vinzons Avenue, Vinzons, Camarines Norte.

Interment will be on June 28, 2006 at the Vinzons Cemetry after the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

Message of Thanks

WE, THE FAMILY OF THE LATE

HILARIO "Undo" PANERIO DAVIDE, SR.

who peacefully joined his Creator on June 17, 2006 at the age of 101,

sincerely express our deepest gratitude to all those who offered prayers, condoled and comforted us in our hour of bereavement.

For we know that when this earthly tent we live in is taken down – when we die and leave these bodies – we will have a home in heaven, an eternal body made for us by GOD HIMSELF and not by human hands.

2 Corinthians 5:1

The Department of Environment and Natural Resources Family,
with **Hon. Secretary Angelo T. Reyes,**
condoles with the bereaved family

of the late

REYNALDO PANGAN ALCANCES

Chief, Environmental Impact Assessment Division
Environmental Management Bureau (EMB) - DENR

who died last June 17, 2006 at the age of 52.

He is survived by his wife **Eva** and Daughter **April Joy**; Mother: **Elena**; Brothers and Sisters: **Edar, Lani, Marilou, Jorge & Fe**; In-laws: **Lina, Mely, Jerry, Rollie** and **Robert**; Nephews and Nieces: **May** and **Nilo, Esther** and **Elijah, Jay & Leah, Audry, Liza, Rose, Len, Kitty, Kristine, Reschelle & Jade**; Grandchildren: **Camille, Gay, Tim, Elias, Benjamin, Lian & Gian.**

His remains lie in state at St. Peter Memorial Chapel, Quezon Avenue, Quezon City. Interment will be at 10AM, Monday, June 26, 2006 at the Holy Cross Memorial Park.

Please omit flowers. Instead, donations may be directed to the education fund of **Ray's** 11-year-old daughter (April Joy) in the following accounts:

Sunlife of Canada (Phils.) Inc., for the Account of

APRIL JOY DELA CRUZ

			Policy No.
US Dollar	:	BPI-0074-0243-43 or	031592628
Account	:	Citibank-0602621014	
Peso Account	:	BPI-0073-1754-37	031592627

We design **obituaries** for free.

In Loving Memory
On the Tenth Death Anniversary of

JUDGE MANUEL K. GRUBA

Formerly of the Court of Tax Appeals
Who passed on to Eternal Life
On June 26, 1996.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass shall be offered at the following churches:

Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Q.C.	All Masses
Mary the Queen Parish, San Juan	6:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.
Santo Domingo Church, Quezon City	8:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.
Mount Carmel Shrine, Quezon City	6:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.
Nstra. Sra. Del Perpetual Socorro Parish 2042 Calamba, Manila	6:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.
Our Lady of La Consolation Church Miranila Homes, Quezon City	6:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.

Engr. JESUS TUYORSA URGEL

(Retiree, DPWH)

Peacefully joined his Creator on June 1, 2006 at the age of 83.

Sorrowfully missed by his loved ones.
Fondly remembered by his loving family **Wife** Natividad Bunao; **children** Cynthia, Evelyn and Mark Senatin, Sr., Myrna, Marietta and Rolando Lorenzo; **grandchildren** Gretchen, Mark Jr., Kathleen, and Brian Luis Senatin; Laurice, Romarie, Ronald Joshua, Rhys Roman, and Leodegario II Lorenzo; **brother and sister-in-law** Jose and Juana Ogena; **niece, nephews and their children** Lucie and Ruben Mercado; Leo and Leonila del Rosario, Lorraine and Lesley Urgel; Napol and Melgina Biscocho, Patrick and Joyce Urgel

Message of Thanks

We, the bereaved family, express our sincerest appreciation and gratitude to relatives and friends who offered Masses and prayers, sent flowers and donations, visited and helped us and comforted us during our time of bereavement.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

Always caring...
INQUIRER OBITUARIES

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:

❶ Copy of Death Certificate

❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

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A Mesage of Gratitude

The Family
of

Neciforo I. Israel

Who passed away in the Grace of our Lord on April 30, 2006 at the age of 63.

His Wife
Nesta

His children & grandchildren
Claire & John
Grace & Melvin, Nikki & Alexa
Marites & Sherlon, Mandy

Convey our sincerest gratitude to everyone who expressed their sympathy in our moment of sorrow.

In Loving Memory

on the First Death Anniversary
of our Beloved

MA. ROSARIO "CHAYEE" S. VALTE

July 30, 1962 – July 2, 2005

Her husband **Eric**; children, **Erica, Erin, Eric II, Elise**; Parents, Brothers and Sisters; invite all relatives and friends; as well as request the readers to offer a prayer for her.

Masses will be offered at the following churches:

Carmelite Monastery Chapel – 3:30 P.M., July 1, 2006
San Pablo City, Laguna (Saturday)

Immaculate Concepcion Parish – 6:45 P.M., July 2, 2006
Balayan, Batangas (Sunday)

Church of St. Boniface – 8:30 A.M., July 2, 2006
Rockland, New York, U.S.A.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave us His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have Everlasting life."—John 3:16

DAFROSA "NANAY ROSING" UY PALMA

of Matuyatuya Torrijos, Marinduque & Rd. 7 GSIS Hills Tulipapa, Caloocan City

joined her Creator on June 23, 2006 at 5:15 pm

Her remains now lies in state at Arlington Love Chapel, Araneta Ave., Q.C

Interment will be on June 29, 2006, Thursday. 2:00 pm at Eternal Garden, Caloocan City.

Death Notice

Artemio "Boy" Salcedo Cruz, Jr.

died last June 17, 2006 at the age of 58

His remains lie at Funeraria Paz Sucat in Manila Memorial Park.

Interment starts 9am today, June 25, 2006.

Conrado Magnaye

Dies in the grace of our Lord at the age 56.

DATE OF DEATH: JUNE 20, 2006
INTERMENT JUNE 25, 2006 AT PILILA, RIZAL

JOB Market

SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 2006
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(Commonwealth, Makati, or Ortigas)
Gather feedback, do follow-ups, and facilitate collections among customers of leading organizations in research, finance, and roadside assistance.

TECHNICAL CUSTOMER CARE REPRESENTATIVES
(Commonwealth, Makati, or Ortigas)
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Get the chance to win FREE prizes by simply being a walk-in applicant at our Convergys Alabang site from June 26-30, 2006!

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Commonwealth Office
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Makati Office
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(02)756-7188

Ortigas Office
24th Floor, Robinsons Equitable Tower, #4 ADB Avenue Ortigas Center, Pasig City
(02)857-7678

Alabang Office
Block 44, Northgate Cyberzone, Muntinlupa City
(02)758-1688

U-Belt Office
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Sampaloc, Manila
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HSBC, 35F Discovery Center
ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City

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- At least 2 years working experience in Marketing or Sales
- 25 – 35 years of age
- College graduate with Sales/Marketing/Business background
- Excellent in oral and written communication skills
- Must be computer literate

➢ ACCOUNTING STAFF

- At least 2 years working experience in accounting field
- Bachelor's Degree in Accountancy
- Comprehensive knowledge in Gen. Accounting/Taxation Preparation
- Must be computer literate

➢ HUMAN RESOURCES STAFF

- At least 2 years working experience in Human Resources function
- College Graduate of BS/AB Psychology, Behavioral Science or any related course
- Knowledge in Salary Scale, Phil. labor law, Benefits Administration
- Excellent written & oral communication skills
- Must be computer literate

➢ RESTAURANT STORE MANAGER

- At least 2 years working experience in Restaurant Management
- 25-35 years of age
- Graduate of Hotel & Rest. Mgt or Business-related courses
- Customer service oriented
- Results oriented/Leader
- 2-3 years working experience in Restaurant Management

➢ FOOD SERVICE TRAINER

- At least 2 years working experience as a Trainer in Food Business
- 25-35 years of age
- Graduate of Hotel & Rest. Mgt.or Business-related courses
- Must be disciplined and strict
- Result oriented/Leader
- Good in oral and written communication skills

➢ DRIVERS

- At least 2 years working experience as company driver
- 25-35 years of age
- Good in oral and written communication skills
- Knowledge in traffic rules and regulations

➢ SERVICE CREW & KITCHEN STAFF

- At least 2 years working experience in Food Business
- Preferably at least 21 years of age
- Pleasing personality
- Good in oral and written communication

➢ CHEFS

- At least 2-3 years work experience as Chef in a well-known restaurant
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- Graduate of Hotel and Restaurant or any related Food Business course
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CRM SR ANALYST / DEVELOPER

Bachelor's Degree in Computer Engineering / Science

Related experiences:

3 yrs exp in customer relationship management. Seibel Certified and with knowledge in Java.

SYSTEM INTEGRATION MGR

Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science Engineering

Related experiences:

5 yrs exp in system integration management. Good management skills.

UNIX ADMIN

Bachelor's Degree in Computer Engineering / Science

Related experiences:

3 yrs experience in UNIX administration.

NSS OPERATIONS MANAGER

Bachelor's Degree in Computer Engineering / Science

Related experiences:

5 yrs exp in network services operations. Good management skills

NS SENIOR PROGRAM ANALYST

Bachelor's Degree in Computer Engineering / Science

Related experiences:

3 yrs exp in network services analysis. Knowledge in Java.

BILLING SENIOR DEVELOPER

Bachelor's Degree in Computer Engineering / Science

Related experiences:

3 yrs exp in billing Rating / Pipeline. Knowledge in Java & Oracle.

PROJECT MANAGER

Bachelor's Degree in Computer Engineering / Science

Related experiences:

3 yrs Experience in project management. PMP Certified. Good management skills.

MEDIATION SR SYSTEM ANALYST

Bachelor's Degree in Computer Engineering / Science

Related experiences:

3 years exp in Mediation analysis. Knowledge in Java & Oracle.

CONFIGURATION CONTROLLER

Bachelor's Degree in Computer Engineering / Science

Related experiences:

3+ yrs experience in Release Engineering or Build Engineering in reputed company. Knowledge in Unix. Strong understanding, build methodology & experience w/ mixed file format configuration management (Java, scripts, Oracle PL/SQL, HTML, XML).

BILLING SR BUSINESS ANALYST

Bachelor's Degree in Computer Engineering / Science

Related experiences:

3 yrs experience in billing Processing. Knowledge in Java and Oracle.

CDF INTERCONNECT SENIOR SYSTEM ANALYST

Bachelor's Degree in Computer Engineering / Science

Related experiences:

3 yrs experience in CDF (Common Data Format) analysis. Knowledge in Java.

ERP SR FUNCTIONAL ANALYST / ORACLE

Bachelor's Degree in Computer Engineering / Science

Related experiences:

3 yrs exp in oracle ERP Logistics / Financials Modules.

BILLING OPERATION SENIOR SYSTEM ANALYST

Bachelor's Degree in Computer Engineering / Science

Related experiences:

3 yrs experience in billing operations (Payment, Credit Control, Collection, Accounting and Pipeline). Knowledge in Oracle.

SENIOR ENGINEERS • ENGINEERS • ASST. ENGINEERS

MOBILE NETWORK DEVELOPMENT / RF PLANNING & OPTIMIZATION

Bachelor's Degree in Electronics / Telecom Engineering with specialized Training in Digital Mobile Network.

Related Experiences:

Extensive Experience in RF planning and optimization of Digital MS system using related tools & software related to RF planning and optimization.

MOBILE NETWORK DEVELOPMENT / PROJECT

Bachelor's Degree in Electronics/Telecom Engineering with specialized Training in Digital MS and Radio Paging technologies will be beneficial.

Related Experiences:

Good exp in planning and implementation of Mobile System Projects, project management of digital mobile systems and radio networks/ services. Specialized training on GSM equipment. Familiar with one of the following systems: Alcatel, Ericsson, Huawei, Motorola, NOKIA nodeB. Must have the ability to design , development, estimation, tender, negotiate, award, execute and quality assurance of telecom industry.

MOBILE NETWORK DEVELOPMENT / RADIO TRANSMISSION / O&M

Bachelor's Degree in Electronics/Telecom Engineering

Related experiences & skills:

Extensive experience in operation and maintenance of Microwave Radio systems. Reports and Reviews with superiors the operation and maintenance parameters of Radio Systems. Ensures conformance to the standards, procedures and guidelines in respect of operation and maintenance practices and network performance quality. With good management skills, communication skills and interpersonal skills with proven experience in motivating a diverse technical staff complement. Familiar with working in and taking a leadership role in a multi cultural and multi national environment. Strong O&M, analytical and problem solving skills. Willing to work for long hours and under stress in any area in KSA.

MOBILE NETWORK DEVELOPMENT / CIVIL

Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering with specialized training in project management.

Related experiences:

Good exp in design & construction of antenna structures. Must have good experience in overseeing the design, development & construction of antennae structures, Civil engineer & construction management with reference to infrastructure development for telecom project. Must have the ability to design, development, estimation, tender, negotiate, award, execute & quality assurance of telecom industry. Good PC literacy & familiarity to CAD & project management Systems.

DATA NETWORK

Bachelor's degree in computer engineering/ science and Cisco CCNP or CCDP certified.

Related experiences:

Strong background & knowledge with cisco products. Posses excellent networking and troubleshooting skills. Good experience in Unix/Windows servers platforms, networking, security, protocols and technologies.

MOBILE NETWORK DEVELOPMENT / ANTENNA SYSTEM

Bachelor's degree in Electronics/Electrical/Telecom Engineering with specialized training in planning and implementation digital MS antenna projects.

Related experiences:

Must hold valid driving license. Good experience in planning and implementation of mobile system antenna projects.

MOBILE NETWORK DEVELOPMENT / OMC / RADIO

Bachelor's Degree in Electronics/Telecom Engineering with specialized Training in operation & maintenance.

Related Experiences:

Good experience in operation & maintenance of Mobile System. Familiar with one of the following OMCR, OSS systems: Alcatel, Ericsson, Huawei, Motorola & NOKIA 3G, operation and maintenance activities from the OMCR or OSS toward BSS elements (BTS, NODE B, BSC, RNC, TC & PCU) such as Fault management, Configuration management and Administration management.

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Related Experiences & skills:

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SYSTEM SECURITY DESIGN & IMPLEMENTATION

Bachelor's degree in Computer Science Engineering, Professional certifications in Tivoli products & systems administration & security.

Related experiences:

Good exp specially on Tivoli Security Products: Tivoli configuration manager – Tivoli Security, Compliance – Tivoli Identity manager – Tivoli Access, manager – Tivoli Risk manager. Exp of administrating Unix/Linux/Windows sys. (specially required for Access manager, Security compliance, & Configuration manager). Worked on Tivoli as an administrator & implementer (preferred). Good knowledge of Network & systems.

IN / NETWORK OPERATION CENTER

Bachelor's degree in Electronics/Electrical/Telecom Engineering.

Related experience:

Good exp in GSM operation & maintenance, Intelligent network (IN) field using ERICSSON PPS, MVPN service. Fully understanding of CAP2, CAP3, and INAP Cs1+ protocols. Knowledgeable in database technology including ORACLE, SYBASE & familiar w/ SUN SOLARIS SYSTEM.

SWITCHING / NETWORK OPERATION CENTER

Bachelor's degree in Electronics/Electrical/Telecom Engineering.

Related experience:

Good experience in AXE switches; operation and maintenance of GSM network and knowledge in AXE-810 & APG40 is advantage.

MOBILE NETWORK DEVELOPMENT / ELECTRICAL & MECHANICAL

Bachelor's degree in Electrical/Mechanical Engineering.

Related experiences:

Good experience in installation, testing, commissioning, operation and maintenance of Air conditioning and other electro-Mechanical infrastructure. Must have the ability to design , develop, tender, negotiate, award, execute and quality assurance of telecom Air conditioning and other electro-Mechanical infrastructure and services.

MOBILE NETWORK DEVELOPMENT / RADIO TRANS / IMPLEMENTATION

Bachelor's Degree in Electronics/Telecom Engineering

Related Experiences & skills:

Extensive exp in implementation, testing commissioning of Radio systems including Microwave. Links, Point-to-Multipoint System, Broadband Radio & other Radio systems. Reports &reviews w/superiors the day-to day significant / critical Implantation issues & observations. Monitors the performance quality of the respective Microwave Transmission element. Provides professional direction & guidance to subordinates, evaluates the performance of subordinates & carries out counseling to improve. Good management skills, communication skills & interpersonal skills w/ proven experience in motivating a diverse technical staff complement. Familiar w/ working & taking a leadership role in a multi cultural and multi national environment. Willing to work for long hours and under stress in all around KSA.

SECURITY OPERATION CENTER

Bachelor's degree in Computer engineering/ Science, with Professional certifications in networking, system administration & security.

Related experiences:

Good practical experiences in network and systems security operations and reporting, Unix/Windows servers platforms, managing and operating network security solutions including but not limited to: IDS, IPS, Firewalls, VPNs, RSA PKI, vulnerabilities scanning and testing, penetration testing, and ethical hacking.

CONTACT CENTER

Bachelor's degree in Computer Engineering/ Science and Cisco CCNP or CCDP certified.

Related experiences:

Familiar with Cisco IPCC systems, good background in communication industry, Win 2000 environment and Cisco IP Telephony (IPT) system. Network experience is recommended.

MOBILE NETWORK DEVELOPMENT / VALUE ADDED SERVICES

Bachelor's degree in Electrical/Telecommunication Engineering

Related experiences:

Good experience in mobile systems (GSM / GPRS / EDGE / 3G and VALUE ADDED SERVICES, IN,MESSAGING); knowledge in integration with mobile core and billing systems.

MOBILE NETWORK DEVELOPMENT / PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

Bachelor's Degree in Electronics/Telecom Engineering

Related Experiences & skills:

Extensive experience in performance management. Gathers all the statistics from all nodes. Updates all the utilization of the nodes according to the existing capacity & the usage of the system and the routes. Trend & forecast analysis. Study all the stats about the network and highlight all the necessary items. Add new proposal that may enhance the network. Highlight the a plan of action to improve performance. Use different tools to collect statistics & check the status of the network,

MOBILE NETWORK DEVELOPMENT / SWITCHING PROJECTS

Bachelor's Degree in Electronics/Telecom Engineering.

Related Experiences & skills:

Extensive experience in switching projects understand the scope of the new coming nodes and equipments. Follow up with the vendors the delivery of the nodes or the expansions. Provides layout for the upcoming equipments, study the project plan and check if the provided dates are acceptable to Mobily. Facilitate all the vendors requirement and coordinate between all Mobilys' related sections. Arrange and follow up all project phases with all involved parties. Deliver the project according to the assigned due dates. Fill in the PATs and the RFAs to be sent to the Operation sections. Follow up with the Operations and with the vendors for all the snags to be cleared before issuing the RFS.

OSP / TRANSMISSION

Bachelor's degree in Telecom/Electrical/Civil engg.

Related experiences:

Good exp in Fiber Optic Cables Outside Plan Civil work & material SDH Systems DWDM systems Implementation & commissioning of transmission system, Network Management Systems Network Integration.

Skills & language requirements:

Excellent English writing/speaking,very good reporting skills analytical thinker, problem solving, troubleshooting skills, ability to work in team spirit and take initiative self motivated, and self confidant, good skill in using Microsoft Office productivity products.

PROJECT / TRANSMISSION

Bachelor's degree in Telecom Engineering and Project Management Professional (PMP) or Prince 2 Practitioner.

Related experiences:

Experience in project management and coordination, CRM - (Operational, Analytical & Collaborative) Quality assurance, KPI Reporting including risk analysis. Candidate should have extensive experience on: Fiber Optic System - SDH, DWDM, Management. System - Network Integration.

MOBILE NETWORK DEVELOPMENT / RADIO TRANSMISSION / PLANNING

Bachelor's Degree in Electronics/Telecom Engineering

Related experiences & skills:

Extensive exp in implementation, testing, commissioning of Radio systems including Microwave. Links, Point-to-Multipoint System, Broadband Radio & other Radio systems. Reports & reviews w/ superiors the day-to day significant/critical Implantation issues & observations. Studies, analyses, reports and reviews w/ superiors . Specific M.W Design issue in respect of the assigned Microwave Transmission elements as required from time to time in order to enhance the performance quality. Monitors the performance quality of the respective Microwave Transmission element. Good management skills, communication skills & interpersonal skills w/ proven exp in motivating a diverse technical staff complement. Familiar w/ working & taking a leadership role in a multi cultural, multi national environment. Willing to work for long hours & under stress in all around KSA.

Skills / Competencies:

Installation, Testing, Acceptance Testing, Commissioning, Operation and Maintenance of Mobil Network Development and equipment. Network & Service Planning and Network Quality Assurance. Maintenance management skills, interpersonal and communication skills, advanced level PC skills, presentation and meeting skills. Project Planning & Coordination.

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SENIOR ENGINEERS SHOULD HAVE MINIMUM 6-10 YEARS EXPERIENCE / ENGINEERS MINIMUM 3-5 YEARS EXPERIENCE ASSISTANT ENGINEERS MINIMUM 1-3 YEARS EXPERIENCE

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Text us your feedback: Inquirer paw name/city/message. Send to 2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

How do you create a real dialogue with someone?

DEAR WW: I'M A NEW SUpervisor and I get the sense that people only tell me what they think I want to hear. What can I do to hear what they really think?

Loose Lips

WORKING WOUNDED

Bob Rosner

I was traveling in France and needed a cash machine. I stopped one person and asked him if he spoke English. He shook his head yes. I then asked him if he knew where the nearest ATM was. Yes, he replied. Okay, you can probably see where this is going, the guy couldn't speak English anymore than I could speak French, but it took me a long time to figure it out.

Unfortunately, many of our conversations at work are like this. We mistake actual conversation for a monologue. I've listed a series of questions you can ask below to help you create better dialogues at work. For more, check out "Managing for Excellence" by Moi-Ali, et al. (DK, 2001).

Ask, how do you feel that you did? Often we jump right in to tell people what we think of their performance. A better place to start is the Dr. Phil question, "So how is this working for you?" Ask them. You may be surprised by how they have good reasons for what they're doing. Or you may be shocked by how deluded they are. Either way it's helpful to see their performance through their eyes.

Ask, is there anything that you would change if you had it over to do again? We often rob the person of the most important part of any performance, the chance to learn from their experiences.

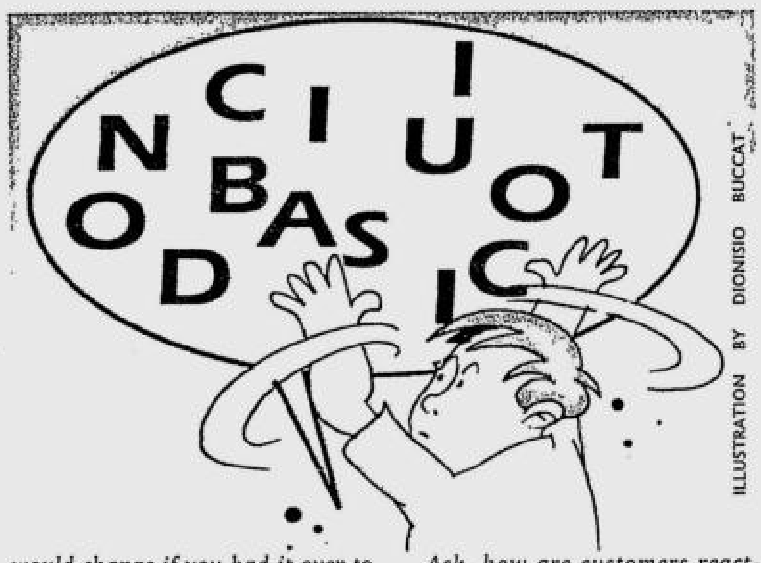

ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

Ask, how are customers reacting? This is ultimately where the rubber meets the road in business. Yet many of us don't take the time to take the pulse of our customers nearly enough. Ask for specific comments from specific customers.

Ask, are you aware of any negative reactions? There is a tendency in many employees to only report good news. It is important to find out what is really going on. In this case it is important to not only ask the question, but to be careful to not beat the person up who tells you potentially negative information.

Ask, how do you feel about what is going on? Business people love to live in the land of thoughts. Feelings, on the other hand, can be scary and intimidating. But take the time to ask about feelings and you just might get a much more accurate gauge of what's really going on.

Ask, is there anything that I can do to help? The ultimate question from any boss. Show your people that you are willing to pitch in to help.

Lily Tomlin once wished that she could pair up all the people who walk down the street talking to themselves. She thought it would be nice to have them appear to be having a conversation. Avoid this at work by using the strategies above to have a real dialogue with the people you work with.

Here are the results from a recent workingwounded.com/ABCnews.com online ballot: How would you describe the majority of conversations you have at work?

—A monologue about what I should be doing, 19.8 percent

—I don't have many conversations at work, 40.3 percent

—A great dialogue, with real give and take, 39.7 percent

(Mr. Rosner, an internationally syndicated columnist, author and speaker, is based in Seattle, Washington, USA. E-mail him at bob@workingwounded.com.)

The power within

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

THERE ARE WORK SITUATIONS WHERE WE FIND OURSELVES AT a loss on what to do, and confused on how to resolve an emergency in the workplace or paralyzed by an overwhelming difficulty in the job. It would happen sometimes that the more we dig into our store of knowledge and technical skills for help, the more we feel inadequate and perhaps we even panic. Then we would remember the wise advice: "Don't panic! Stay calm and focused." And when we do so, most likely we begin to see the light in the darkness of confusion, or we gain strength in the debilitating, and tedious process of problem-solving; eventually we succeed to overcome the obstacle to the accomplishment of our work.

When everyone in the workplace has the positive outlook in seeing the great potential and power he has within, he would easily and successfully face complex problems in work or even dangerous work situations. This optimistic attitude springs from the understanding and belief that the Creator has endowed every human person with so many gifts and has shared His power with everyone who accepts and believes in Him.

The manager or supervisor who possesses this optimism and faith will have great confidence when he and his workers face seemingly insurmountable work difficulties. Those, however, who rely only on their scientific, technical and managerial competence could reach a dead end in their search for solutions. Being thankful for one's talents and feeling the powerful presence of Jesus within oneself will greatly help in making everything at the workplace manageable and self-fulfilling. *(E-mail the author at* mfvg@skyinet.net)

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

Gospel: Mark 4, 35-41

Jesus was in the stern, asleep on a cushion. They woke him and said to him, 'Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing' He woke up, rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Quiet! Be still!'

Imagination is funny

By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

UNTIL YOU TRY IMAGINATION AND FLEXIBILITY AT WORK, YOU'LL never know what power they could show you. My work as a communicator demands that I be both flexible and imaginative. I cannot just be a "journalist," "writer," "editor" or "media person." To be fruitful in my job, I have to live life outside of mere titles. Now let me tell you of an incident where I was flexible enough to "work" as a fisherman and imaginative enough to bail myself out of hysteria.

I joined a boatload of fishermen towards midnight to catch squid, somewhere in Surigao. Even before we could catch anything, the sea got so rough it was dizzying to watch the lamp swaying overhead. Water was starting to come into our small boat, and the fishermen themselves were beginning to worry, the sea's behavior being unexpected that time of the year. One of the men started to throw up as the others nervously scooped water out of the boat. Our motor had broken down and we were getting nowhere, simply being tossed about by the menacing waves. Strangely, I wasn't afraid. I was imagining how Jesus' followers must have felt—in precisely today's Gospel story—when our Lord slept through a storm as the waves broke over their boat. I could almost see Jesus sleeping there on that very same boat we took to catch squid. I wasn't even praying, I was merely imagining Him there with us, and thinking *"If the Master of wind and wave is with us, why worry?"* I didn't note know how long it took—I simply observed the goings-on around me and before long, the sea was calm again. The fishermen called it quits and soon our motor spluttered us safely back ashore. I must admit I was the only one in high spirits when we were back on dry land.

Now tell me what power worked then when both man and machine failed? Did imagination protect me from fear and danger? Whatever—I now believe imagination is the playful baby sister of faith. *(E-mail the author at* teresa_de_manila@yahoo.com.)

Studies recommend that both academe and industry address competency 'mismatch'

By Regina Galang Reyes

THE REPORT ON THE NATIONAL Manpower Summit convened by the Department of Labor and Employment claims that there are 577,718 new jobs this year and that from this year until 2010, about 4,081,447 jobs will be generated by seven top job-generating industries, namely, agribusiness, cyber services, hotels and restaurants, medical tourism, health services, mining and aviation.

But why is it that in many families, there seems to be at least one considered to be already part of the labor force who is finding it difficult to get a job?

One of the culprits, according to lawyer Emerico de Guzman, is the "mismatch" of labor supply and industry demand, although ultimately this boils down to a lack of jobs. Lawyer De Guzman is this year's president of the Personnel Management Association of the Philippines (PMAP), one of the most prestigious associations of human resources executives in the country.

He explains, "Particularly, the competencies and skills possessed by new graduates do not seem to match those demanded by employers. Likewise, the expectations of new graduates on the matters of compensation and job description do not jibe with an employer's expectations of flexibility and reasonableness on the part of the employees."

But what exactly are the competencies and skills demanded by most employers nowadays? Based on a PMAP survey conducted recently, it seems that company interviewers find many jobseekers to have "poor impact and communication." "Poor impact" is more understood in Filipino as "walang dating" or, in effect, the interviewer does not have a strong and lasting positive impression of the jobseeker. Communication skills, on the other hand, may refer to the jobseeker's fluency and proficiency in the use of English, both written and verbal.

DE GUZMAN REGINA REYES

The other employer standards in hiring, according to this same survey, are the jobseeker's analytical-thinking skills and his display of confidence.

Recommendations of both the National Manpower Summit and PMAP's recent manpower Planning Survey agree that the linkage between educational institutions and the industries should be strengthened to address this employment mismatch. The Summit report states, that the linkage should focus on "providing information on labor market trends, curriculum development, career guidance and counseling." On the other hand, the PMAP survey includes, among others, the "formulation of competence guide by the industry to be used by the schools." Hopefully, the educational system will take up this industry challenge.

'How can I have a more positive attitude?'

MISUNDERSTANDINGS EASILY arise among my teammates and me. We constantly blame each other whenever problems arise. Our boss sometimes adds to the problem with his threatening reactions. In short, there is a lot of negative energy and our situation is getting worse.

We have tried teambuilding, but after a month or two we went back to our usual selves—negative about problems, blaming each other and failing to get the best results from our jobs.

I don't want to give up or look for another job. I wish I could help inject a more positive attitude in the team so that we can get more things done. Can you give me some tips?

Hopeful

ASK YOUR CAREER COUNSELOR

Ernie O. Cecilia

It is not unusual to find negative energy in a team, especially when problems arise. When a team is succeeding, it seems nothing hurts. When a team is not meeting its goals, members can get disillusioned, frustrated, or feel negative vibes.

Failure is possible

There are a number of ways that team members react to this situation. Some become more negative, others lose motivation, while a few withdraw from the team. I am glad that you're not giving up on your team.

Here are a few useful tips that can bring back a more positive attitude in your team.

Of course, when your team sets out to do a task, you don't expect to fail. To avoid failure, prepare like crazy and do the best you all can. If you did your best and still fail, don't feel bad. Everything you do will always have consequences—successes or failures. Believe me, it is still possible for your team to fail, no matter how prepared you are. Perhaps, you have not anticipated and prepared for every eventuality. Maybe, not everybody did his best.

Avoid blaming

It is common for members to sulk or get frustrated when they fail as a team. The first reaction is usually to find out who is responsible for the failure. When your teammates start doing this, your team is bound to generate a lot of negative energy.

Learn from failure

Keep calm in the face of failure. Refrain from blaming each other. When someone asks who is responsible for the failure, stop him. Instead, refocus the team on what could have been done to prevent the failure. Ask what you can learn from this failure. Encourage the group to find ways to improve together as you move forward.

How you handle failure will tell whether you will succeed or fail again. Failures have value. You can learn from failures—yours or others. Whenever your team fails, sit down and analyze what went wrong—not who did wrong. Make sure that henceforth nobody does the same mistake again. It is all right to commit honest mistakes, but avoid crippling ones.

When you turn failure into a learning experience, you tend to generate positive vibes. When you blame each other because of your failures, you can't expect to have positive energy in your team.

Avoid excuses

It is common for teammates to come up with excuses in the face of failures. This usually happens when they are put on the defensive. When someone tries to offer excuses or blames everybody or everything around you, stop him or her. Set a rule that blaming is not allowed. When nobody blames anyone, no one will have to be defensive or negative. It will be easier for the team to be more tolerant of failure and to look forward.

As a team, you always have a choice—make excuses or make things happen. Make a career out of making things happen.

Correct the situation

When you see yourself or other teammates making excuses or blaming circumstances or people, stop. When you allow people to blame circumstances, they will next look for people to blame.

Help your team to refocus on what could be done to rectify the situation. What was done could no longer be undone. But if you take the right steps now, you can get it done right the next time. Don't beat to death issues about the past. Focus on what you can do in the future. Believe me, the future is where you will spend the rest of your life.

Be a role model

Sometimes, a team looks up to a role model. Whenever the team begins to exude negative feelings towards things, circumstances or people, step in with your positive mood. Break the negative vibes before they infect others. Be the optimist in the team. When someone feels that the team will never make it, challenge him or her. Accentuate the positive.

It is common for people to give up in the face of failure. Be a cut above the rest—don't give up. Ask the team to give a little more than they gave the last time.

Before you can convince others to be positive, you have to convince yourself first. If you think you're beaten, you are. If you think you can, you can. If you think you cannot, you are also correct!

(Public service announcement: "Tiripon 2006, a grand alumni homecoming of the University of Nueva Caceres, Naga City, will be held on Sept. 9. Alumni from all levels are invited to attend. Please e-mail me for details.)

(Mr. Cecilia is the president and CEO of EC Business Solutions and Career Center, a human resource consulting firm. He was the president of Personnel Management Association of the Philippines or PMAP in 1999. His career books are available at popular bookstores. Send feedback to ernie_cecilia-@yahoo.com.)

'I want to become an engineer!'

By Tita Datu Puangco

MAY THE BLESSINGS OF THE Lord be with you this wonderful day! I sent you this e-mail because I am looking for persons with good hearts. I know it is hard to simply trust anyone nowadays and people don't give their trust to anyone easily.

Let me introduce myself first. I am a lady from Poblacion, Ibaan, Batangas. I am an incoming third year Civil Engineering student at the University of Batangas. Due to tuition fee increase, I don't know if I can continue with my studies. I really want to finish my course and hope that someday I will become successful.

I have inquired about other scholarships. But all of them are only applicable for freshmen students. My mother owns a store but her income there is not enough to continue sending me to school. My father died when I was in Grade 4. Three years is a long journey for me to finish college. I really want to become an engineer.

Advice
FOR THE ANXIOUS PERSON AT WORK

Can you and your readers help me to become one?

If any school or foundation would have scholarship grants for students like me, I want to apply for it. I am willing to submit all the necessary papers and requirements. May you become one of the persons who will help me with my studies?

Thank you very much for reading my my e-mail. I hope to read a reply from you soon. May the guidance of the Lord be with you always.

Future Engineer

Thank you for having the courage to send this letter. Based on my experience, we have generous readers who respond quickly to requests such as yours. You are right. In this knowledge era, the right education is still the key to success. I recognize that the competitive advantage of India as a country today is the many competent engineers that graduate annually. I encourage you to pursue your course.

It would be good to know from you exactly how much you would need on a per semester basis for the three years left of your course. I am not a rich person but I am willing to provide part of what you need this semester. The challenge is to make sure you stay in school. Or you can call me and I can give you names of possible foundations you can approach. I also wish to call on our readers who have money to spare or referrals to give to respond generously to this cry for help. May God in His providence continue to take care of you!

(Ms Puangco is CEO of Ancilla Enterprise Development Consulting, a training and consulting company specializing in strategy management, leading change, human resource systems, leadership and enterprise training. For feedback, kindly e-mail advice@ancillaedc.com.ph *or fax 892-2902. For other inquiries, please call* 892-2895, 892-2896 or 892-2898.)

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The candidate we are looking for must be:

- Able to collect, analyze and process data and information covering the economy, business and industry, and government policy
- Able to prepare quality research and working papers and assist in project and feasibility studies
- Able to liaise effectively with government offices and other private sector organizations
- Able to work well whether alone or in coordination with groups, and when under time pressure

The person we have in mind should be:

- Male or female and not more than 30 years old
- With at least three years experience in the same or similar position
- Experienced in or exposed to research work, project studies or industry studies
- Persevering, hardworking, meticulous, trustworthy, and pleasant to work with
- Graduate of a 4-year course in Business, Economics, Math, Engineering or the Applied Sciences
- Preferably with a Master's degree in Economics or Business Administration
- Have good academic background and good scholastic records, with leadership skills
- Have excellent English skills for speaking and for business correspondence & news writing
- Well organized, updated and well read, analytical, and self-driven
- Well-versed in MS Word, MS Excel and chart and graph making, MS Office
- Able to handle graphic lay-outing software (MS Publisher)

ONE (1) EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

The candidate must be able to perform secretarial duties well. She must have worked in a confidential and administrative capacity as well.
As such, the applicant must be:

- Female and not more than 35 years old
- A graduate of a four-year course with a business or economics related major
- One with good academic background and good scholastic records
- Experienced as a department secretary with supervisory or administrative function
- Pleasant and able to work well with people of different backgrounds
- With excellent written and oral skills in English
- Well-organized and motivated
- Computer literate and proficient in Windows, MS Word, Excel, and PowerPoint
- Able to type at least 40 wpm

ONE (1) OFFICE CLERK

The candidate is responsible for providing clerical/staff services in the Sales Backroom operations. The applicant must be:

- Male or Female and not more than 25 years old
- College graduate; with at least 1-year office work experience
- Computer literate and proficient in MS Office, MS Word and Excel
- Good in oral and written communication skills in English

We offer competitive compensation package, commensurate to qualification and experience.

Residents of Pasig, Marikina, Cainta, Antipolo, San Juan, Quezon City, and Cubao will find our location very accessible.

Direct written applications with full return address, contact numbers, resumé plus transcript, with 2 x 2 latest picture to:

HUMAN RESOURCE & ADMINISTRATIVE DEPARTMENT
P.O. Box 456 Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila

A Dynamic Multinational Company is in need of competent, energetic and self-motivated staff for the following positions:

- **IN-HOUSE SALES MANAGER/CONSULTANT**
  Candidate must be 25-30 years old, Psychology/Biology/ Nutrition or Marketing graduate, fluent in English. Preferably with 3 years experience in sales. Exposure to prestige, high-end luxury brand sales is a distinct advantage.
- **THERAPISTS**
  Candidates must be graduates in medically-allied field -- - Nursing, Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Nutrition, etc.
- **RECEPTIONISTS**
  Computer literate, college graduate, personable, 21-28 years old and fluent in English.

What's on offer to successful candidates?

- Attractive salary package with performance-based incentives
- Full training and orientation
- Unlimited career progression with overseas travel potential

Send your resumé with your picture to:

The HR Manager
ZUNIC
Somerset Olympia Towers,
Makati Avenue, Makati City

Or email to: ml_icaro@yahoo.com

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care

CARE - Philippines, a nongovernment humanitarian organization fighting poverty, is searching for qualified candidates for:

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT

S/he is responsible for assisting in specific tasks related to program development and strategy. The work primarily includes: conducting research on and analyses of social development issues for program-related requirements; preparing project and activity reports; and providing administrative and logistical support to program activities.

Applicants should have at least a bachelor's degree in the social sciences and relevant experience in the area of social development. S/he must possess good analytical and research skills, superior written English, good communication and interpersonal skills, and be computer literate. Email **uson@care.org.ph** for full details of the job description, qualifications, and application process. This item will be for one year and will have a gross salary of P16,000. Submit resumé by **June 30, 2006** to: The Program Development Officer, CARE Philippines, 3rd flr. Luisa II Bldg., 107 Maginhawa St., Teachers Village, Quezon City 1101, Tel. Nos. 928-8246/56 or to uson@care.org.ph (with the subject:: "Application for Program Development Assistant").

The country's premier development bank is in search of prospective candidates for

Account Officer Assistant for Marketing Units

Qualification Standards required:

Education: *Bachelor's Degree relevant to the job*

Experience: *Two (2) years of experience in accounts management, monitoring, evaluation and other related work*

Training: *Eight (8) hours of relevant training*

Civil Service Eligibility: *Career Service (Professional); Relevant eligibility for second level position, i.e., PD 907, First Grade, etc.*

Interested qualified applicants may send their comprehensive resumé to:

The Head
Human Resource Management
P.O. Box 1996
Makati Central Post Office 1200

Join the winning team

Exciting Opportunities for IT Professionals

Misys Banking Systems supplies over 1,200 customers in over 120 countries, among them 49 of the world's top 50 banks, with software and solutions for retail banking, wholesale banking, treasury and capital markets and risk management. It has 2,600 people around the world, over 70% of whom are outside of the UK, and sales, implementation and customer support teams in over 28 countries.

Misys Banking Systems is part of Misys plc. (FTSE: MSY), one of the world's largest and longest-established providers. Founded in 1979, Misys is a top five software provider in both the US healthcare and global banking software markets, turning over in excess of US$1b. For more information, visit www.misys.com

Currently, we are looking to recruit top caliber professionals to fill the following positions:

J2EE ANALYST PROGRAMMER

Perform analysis, coding, testing, and packaging in the areas of Development and/or Maintenance. Ensure quality output and adherence to standards in producing codes.

- Must be a graduate of an IT-related course with at least 3 years experience in the relevant programming languages
- Experienced in doing analysis, design, and testing
- Knowledge and experience in Java/J2EE, creation of web application using JSP and Custom Tags, Object Oriented Development, UML, RDBMS (Oracle or DB2), Web Application Servers (Websphere Application Server, JBOSS, Weblogic or Sun One), Websphere Studio Application Developer (WSAD) or Eclipse, HTML, JavaScript, XML, SQL, JAXB, and other cutting edge new technologies
- Experience in J2EE frameworks (Spring Framework, Struts), open source libraries (i.e., Apache Commons), Hibernate, JSF will be a distinct advantage
- Banking knowledge will be an advantage

RPG ANALYST PROGRAMMER

Perform analysis, coding, testing, and packaging in the areas of Development and/or Maintenance. Ensure quality output and adherence to standards in producing codes.

- Must be a graduate of an IT-related course with at least 3 years experience in the relevant programming languages
- Experienced in doing analysis, design, and testing
- Experience in RPG400, RPG/ILE, CLLE and preferably GUI400
- Must be able to complete tasks as scheduled and within effort estimates
- Can work with minimal supervision
- Good communication and inter-personal (team) skills
- Banking knowledge and customer relations experience will be an advantage

Visual Basic ANALYST PROGRAMMER

- At least 18 months professional experience using VB 6.0 or VC++ 6.0
- Knowledge of COM/ActiveX
- Knowledge of Microsoft SQL Server
- Working knowledge of systems development life cycle.
- Good analysis and problem solving skills
- Strong communication skills
- Logical approach
- Ability to work effectively under pressure.
- Must be able to work alone or in a team environment.
- Self-motivation
- Distinct Advantage:
  - Equation/Midas/Meridian experience
  - Experience on ADO (ActiveX Data Objects)
  - Experience on COM+/DCOM
  - Experience on Crystal Reports
  - Experience on Windows Networking

C++ ANALYST PROGRAMMER

- Appropriate Degree or at least 2- 3 years experience of debugging, PC troubleshooting and networking
- Experience of Visual C++, C, Java, VB6, ODBC, Network/Database administration particularly DB2 and Oracle, MQ/Series, SOAP, tcp/ip, Crystal Reports, Windows & PC administration and iSeries
- Design Experience with Crystal Reports
- Relevant Business Knowledge preferred but not mandatory
- Working knowledge of systems development life cycle.
- Good analysis and problem solving skills
- Strong communication skills
- Logical approach
- Able to write clear documentation
- Ability to work effectively under pressure.
- Must be able to work alone or in a team environment
- Self-motivation

J2EE TECHNICAL LEAD

Produce analysis and design specifications. Coach and advise programmers in coding and testing to support project development and maintenance.

- Must be a graduate of an IT-related course with at least 5 years experience in Java/J2EE
- At least 2 years experience of being in a team lead role
- With strong object-oriented development and design experience in UML, database modeling, and J2EE design patterns
- Knowledge and experience in RDBMS (Oracle or DB2), Web Application Servers (Websphere Application Server, JBOSS, Weblogic or Sun One), Websphere Studio Application Developer (WSAD) or Eclipse, Websphere Application Server (WAS), SQL, web services, HTML, JavaScript, XML, JAXB, and other cutting edge new technologies
- Experience in J2EE frameworks (Spring Framework, Struts), open source libraries (i.e., Apache Commons), Hibernate, JSF will be a distinct advantage
- Banking knowledge will be an advantage

J2EE TECHNICAL DESIGNER

Design software components and solutions based on business requirements. Provide Detailed Estimate for the solution presented for the business requirements. Maintain the current architectural framework of the product.

- Must have at least 4 years practical experience of designing solutions for a large product or system using J2EE and JAVA.
- Exemplary skills in Application, Information and Technology Planning, Systems Definition and Design in J2EE, JAVA and Web Sphere (version 6).
- Experience in UML, JAVA design patterns and use of relevant design tools
- Experience in J2EE frameworks and open source libraries such as Struts, JAXB, MQ Series, etc.

J2EE TECHNICAL ARCHITECT

Research and provide input for the technical strategy employed in building software solutions that meets the business and technical requirements of Misys. Maintain and improve the current architectural framework of the product. Design software components and solutions based on business requirements.

- Must have at least 5 years practical experience of designing and building software systems for the financial industry using J2EE and JAVA
- Proven track record of successful Architecture, Design and Technical Design Authority for at least 2 major technologically innovative solutions in a multi-vendor systems integration
- Exemplary skills in Application, Information and Technology Planning, Systems Definition and Design in J2EE, JAVA and Web Sphere
- Experience in UML, JAVA design patterns and use of relevant design tools
- Experience in J2EE frameworks and open source libraries such as Struts, JAXB, etc.

TEST BUSINESS ANALYST (Message Manager or TI)

- Minimum of 5 years banking and finance domain knowledge with a good understanding of all Swift messages OR Trade Finance (Letters of Credit, Guarantees and Standbys, Bills Financing, Clean Payment Processing, and Departmental Limits or Credit Management)
- Core banking background (Midas or Equation), experience in User Acceptance Testing (UAT), requirement management, and/or use case development will be an advantage
- Competencies Required - Creativeness, Decisiveness, Analytical ability, Problem Solving ability

TEST BUSINESS ANALYST (Midas Plus)

- Minimum of 5 years banking and finance domain knowledge in any of the following areas: Treasury Operations, SWIFT Settlements, Corporate Loans with detailed working knowledge of Loan Syndications & Collaterals Processing an advantage
- Core banking background (Midas or Equation), experience in User Acceptance Testing (UAT), requirement management, and/or use case development will be an advantage
- Competencies Required - Creativeness, Decisiveness, Analytical ability, Problem Solving ability

SOFTWARE ENGINEER - AUTOMATION

- Minimum of 5 years experience in VB programming
- HTML programming experience (preferred)
- Extensive experience in the use of Mercury Tools (Test Director/Quality Center and QTP)
- Working knowledge of Perl, JSP, Unix, NT, or Protocols will be an advantage
- Competencies Required – Analytical ability, Creativeness

LAB ARCHITECT

- Minimum of 5 years experience in developing or maintaining Midas/MidasPlus and/or Trade Innovation systems
- Extensive programming experience in RPG and/or Java J2EE
- Working knowledge of Unix, Scripting, Web Logic, Web Sphere, Windows NT, Oracle, DB2, Deployment, Installation, Configuration, Server side automation, IT infrastructure management will be an advantage
- Competencies Required – Leadership potential, Good interpersonal relationship, Creativeness, Problem Solving ability

BUSINESS ANALYST (Trade Innovation)

Ensure that the software produced is of high quality, satisfies the client requirements, and is operationally fit for its business purposes. Ensure that product quotations are representative of the true effort of development.

- Must have a minimum of 5 years banking experience with the relevant fields of specialization in a team leader or supervisory capacity.
- We require expertise in Trade Finance Banking Operations (Import and Export Transactions, Loans, Risk/Exposure Management, and bank Accounting)

SYSTEM TESTER

Develop and execute quality assurance test scripts to ensure the high quality of the products produced. Participate in the development, maintenance, documentation, and implementation of testing tools to ensure they remain accurate, updated, and applicable.

- Must have a minimum of 2 years experience in software testing.
- Must have a solid experience in the development, maintenance, documentation, and implementation of automated testing tools.
- Must have experience in Visual Basic.
- Banking experience would be an advantage.

TEST LEAD

Responsible for the day-to-day coordination and control of system testing and integration testing to ensure delivery of quality Misys products that meet business requirements within project timescale and budget.

- Must have a minimum of 5 years experience in testing business applications.
- Must have a minimum of 5 years experience in testing methodologies and associated standards.
- Minimum of 2 years in either a software development or software implementation environment in the financial sector
- At least one year's experience of CMM level 3 or above accredited software development processes.
- Experience of Project management tools and processes will be an advantage.
- Experience in Test Automation.
- May be required to travel.

SUPPORT CONSULTANT (Helpdesk Analyst)

Provide a high quality customer support service to Misys clients which delivers satisfaction, customer reference-ability and thereby assisting the company in driving increased revenue. Analyse functional and technical reported cases, provide resolutions in the standard acceptable timeframe and resolve reported cases across assigned Product's modules in order to ensure customer satisfaction.

- Excellent analytical and problem solving technique.
- Excellent communication skills (verbal and written).
- Good customer handling technique.
- Work well under pressure.
- At least 4 years solid experience of financial products software in a support or development environment and/or 3 years of relevant banking experience.
- Can demonstrate competence in functional or technical components of the relevant banking area.
- Knowledge and experience in one or some Misys products is preferred, but not a must.
- Knowledge and experience in at least one of the following will be an advantage:
  - AIX or UNIX
  - Java(J2EE, J2SE), JSP, XML, Java Script, HTML
  - RPG400, RPG/ILE, CLLE, GUI400
  - VB, C++, Crystal Reports
  - DB2, Oracle, SQL Server
  - RDBMS – installation, administration, troubleshooting, SQL
  - Web services – architecture, installation, support
  - WebSphere, MQ, Citrix – installation, support
  - Remote connection networking (PC Anywhere, RAS, VPN, VNC, etc)
  - Environment support including VMWare and GHOST
- Have to work on shift if required.
- Able to work overtime, on Saturdays, Sundays and local holidays.
- May need to travel when required

APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT SYSTEMS ANALYST (EQUATION)

- Minimum 8 years work experience in software development and/or software implementation and/or banking environments
- Minimum of 4 years working knowledge in Equation Banking Server or an equivalent Retail Banking IT System giving in-depth banking knowledge
- Experience in technical work like system design, data base analysis, implementation of packaged banking solutions, interfacing other IT systems to packaged solutions and/or system testing
- Excellent communication and analytical skills, able to effectively communicate with bankers (our clients), implementation consultants and software developers
- Solid presentation skills, able to carry out functional training for both technical and banking people
- Distinct Advantage:
  - Experience in writing proposals, functional designs, test plans in a software development environment (for large commercial applications)
  - Knowledge and experience using Equation retail banking software

TELESALES CONSULTANT

The successful candidate will be responsible for up selling Misys products and/or services to its existing client base, as well as expanding that base and generating new business via telephone communication. He/She will be responsible for closing sales to meet revenue targets, maintenance of our client database detailing records of conversations, clients' needs and product purchases.

- Candidate must have at least 2 years experience in Telesales from an international outsource company
- Must possess effective selling skills, excellent oral and written communication skills
- Must have background in Banking and Finance
- Willing to work on shifting schedule.

I.T. APPLICATIONS ANALYST

To help sell and support banking software, providing support to colleagues in the use of corporate MIS applications.

- Must be a graduate of an IT-releated course
- Must have a minimum of 2 years in IT Support
- Need for MS SQL Server and MS Access experience, application development/support experience and ideally experience with Crystal Reports or Actuate - both of which are report writing tools.
- Willing to travel internationally when necessary

I.T. ANALYST

- Must have at least 3 years experience on the following:
  - administration, performance management and capacity planning of Microsoft Windows network.
  - managing Exchange and SQL servers
  - troubleshooting computer desktop and server problems
  - LAN and WAN management
  - Citrix installation and administration
- VPN configuration and administration experience will be an advantage
- Experience in IBM Websphere, Voice over IP, telecoms, PABX, call center system (ACD) will be an advantage
- Preferably a Microsoft Certified Systems Engineer (MCSE)
- Must have the following soft skills:
  - good communication skills, both verbal and written
  - analytical and with high degree of accuracy
  - high level of problem solving skills
- Willing to work on some weekends and holidays and to be on-call when required

FACILITIES MANAGER

- Must be a graduate of Bachelor's Degree in Engineering, Management, or Business Administration OR its equivalent
- At least 5 years Management experience in Facilities Maintenance, Purchasing and General Administrative Services
- Experience in Property Management, Emergency and Disaster Recovery Procedures
- Background in Security, Occupational Safety and Health Operations
- Must have excellent interpersonal, management and communication skills
- Must have computer proficiency in all Microsoft Office Applications

SOFTWARE QUALITY ASSURANCE (SQA) ANALYST

- Must be a graduate of Computer Science, Computer Engineering, Business, Management Engineering, or any Information Technology related course
- Knowledgeable on quality standards like ISO 9000, CMM/CMMi, Six Sigma and other quality programmes
- At least 3 years experience in systems analysis and design, programming, and conducting audit
- At least 2 years experience in handling a team or project management
- Must be technically oriented, naturally inquisitive and must have good interpersonal, oral and written communication skills

DEVELOPMENT TEAM MANAGER, Construction Team

Reports into the MidasPlus product development organization. Is responsible for quality output and efficiency of a group of 30+ technology professionals, whose major task is to produce and review code as part of the software development process.

Key Responsibilities & Accountabilities:

- Has functional responsibility over the output of a Construction team, ensuring high quality deliverables and organizational efficiencies.
- Supports the planning & execution of multiple projects and ensures their teams meet the delivery commitments from function definition through to readying product for customer deployment and error correction, ensuring that products are developed to a high quality, on time and to budget.
- Pro-actively take action to address any slippage in projects through assisting project managers with re-allocation of resources or other corrective action.
- Takes on a lead role in career development & planning, ensuring the organization is right-sized to meet MidasPlus product developments according to roadmap.

Qualifications:

- Minimum 4 years experience in successfully managing complex development projects
- Experience in complex multi-faceted software solutions with significant installed base
- Experience gained within a software supplier to banks or from banks
- Minimum 10 years experience in people management responsibilities, in a mid-level manager capacity
- Demonstrated strength in organizational planning

PROGRAMME MANAGER for MidasPlus product developments

Key Responsibilities & Accountabilities.

- Work collaboratively with Product Management and the CTO to define Core Banking product strategies, release content and product roadmaps.
- Liaise with other departments to ensure clients (internal or external) are kept informed of progress of development projects; early identification of issues with suggested resolutions
- Monitor the full range of development-related activities within development teams from function definition through to readying product for customer deployment and error correction
- Review estimates, designs, test plans where appropriate

Qualifications.

- Minimum of 7 years experience in successful managing complex development projects
- Expert knowledge of software development process
- Experience in complex multi-faceted software solutions with significant installed base

RESOURCE MANAGER / Project Officer (PMO)

Key Responsibilities & Accountabilities:

- Overall responsible for producing and executing resource plans to address mid-term and long-term resource demands for development teams, in line with priorities described by Product & Strategy
- Resource scheduling, ie. allocate resources to Project Managers in line with priorities described by Product & Strategy and other internal customers
- Pro-actively take action to address any slippage in projects through assisting project managers with re-allocation of resource or other corrective action.
- For Project Management Office (PMO), provide information & management reporting to MidasPlus development managers & heads.
- May take on implementation lead role for the location, for tools rollout, e.g. ClearCase, ClearQuest.

Qualifications:

- Minimum of 4 years experience in project managing complex software development projects
- Competence and demonstrated success in resource planning
- Expert knowledge of software development process

NEW BUSINESS SALES MANAGER

To expand TCM Misys prospective client list and penetrate the marketplace by identifying new sales opportunities within the region and converting these into revenue

Candidates must be a college graduate with the following skills/credentials:

- Banking reference and Banking Software experience.
- Proven track record of "selling" and achieving sales targets at a high-level to the banking sector (5-10 years).
- Experience with Misys Products or experience with a direct competitor would be a distinct advantage
- Must be willing to travel extensively throughout the region.
- Preferably with Master's Degree

Please send in your applications with position code indicated and attach a copy of your resumé to careers_ph@misys.com

To find out more, visit our careers section at www.misysbanking.com/Careers/Situations_Vacant_by_Country/CareerCountries_Phillipines site.

At Misys, we are constantly looking for people with the skills, experience and attitude to enable us to fulfill our dream: to be admired for making the things that really matter, work better.

St. Luke's Medical Center
One of the world's best

Joint Commission INTERNATIONAL

The First and Only Joint Commission International accredited hospital in the Philippines (*and the second in Asia*)

We are inviting key people who are highly personable, committed and with a high degree of integrity to be part of our dynamic team!

APPLICATION DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

(Code: IMD-ADM)

- Graduate of a bachelor's degree, preferably in Engineering, Computer Science or Finance from a reputable school
- Must have full software life cycle experience consisting of at least 3 years project management and 5 years professional software development
- Must have working knowledge in Oracle RDBMS, Oracle development tools, MS SQL Server and object-oriented programming, particularly Java
- Has proven human resource management experience in recruitment, goal setting, and performance management

SYSTEMS ANALYSTS

(Code: IMD-SA)

- Graduate of a bachelor's degree, preferably in Engineering or Computer Science
- Must have completed a course in Project Management and Analysis, Design and Implementation of Information Systems (Structured or Object-Oriented)
- At least 5 years of IT experience, 2 years of which as Project Leader and 2 years as Systems Analyst
- With strong Object-Oriented design skills and adept in design patterns like Struts
- Must have intermediate knowledge in any of the following Database: SQL Server, Oracle and Informix; and Tool: Visual Basic, J2EE, XML, Web Services

SYSTEMS QUALITY CONTROL MANAGER

(Code: IMD-SQCM)

- Graduate of a bachelor's degree, preferably in Engineering, Computer Science or Finance from a reputable school
- With at least 3 years experience in Systems Quality Control and Software Development
- Must be knowledgeable in IT Security Policy Formulation and Audit
- IT Audit Certification is an advantage

HARDWARE ENGINEER

(Code: IMD-HE)

- Graduate of a bachelor's degree, preferably in Engineering or Computer Science
- With 2-3 years experience in Hardware and Software Support
- With working knowledge in Network Components, TCP/IP Protocols, XP Operating System Administration, Netware, Unix/Linux platform, Web Server and Firewall Security

WEB DEVELOPER

(Code: IMD-WD)

- Graduate of a bachelor's degree, preferably in Engineering or Computer Science
- With at least 3 years IT experience, 2 years of which in web developing
- Must be expert in Internet standards and scripting languages such as Java, Javascript, CSS, HTML, and XHTML.

Interested applicants may send their comprehensive resumés with recent photo to:

POSITION CODE: ___________
HRD-Personnel Administration Department/
Manpower Planning and Recruitment Section
ST. LUKE'S MEDICAL CENTER
279 E. Rodriguez Sr. Blvd., Quezon City

or

email us at mprs@stluke.com.ph
(Indicate the position code in the subject box)

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

A Christian foundation is now hiring
for the following positions:

1. Executive Assistant

with the following qualifications:

- Male or Female, at least 30-35 years old
- Bachelor's degree, any related course
- Good working knowledge on graphic design and publications layout using Microsoft PowerPoint, Corel Graphics Suite, Adobe Illustrator, Pagemaker or InDesign, and other internet/computer applications such as Microsoft Outlook and Internet Explorer
- Good technical writing skills
- Fluent in written and oral English
- Good working knowledge re website development to supervise and manage organizational website
- At least 5 years' experience in events organizing and business communication
- With pleasing personality and is a team player
- Preferably an evangelical Christian who can work with people from different religious affiliations

2. Special Projects Coordinator

- Male or Female, at least 30-35 years old
- at least 5 years experience in project management & community development
- graduate of any business or social development course
- at least 5 years exposure to development programs

Please send resumé with photo by email to:
crisfrm2004@yahoo.com

FBIC REEFER CORPORATION

"your transportation to freshness"

a progressive company expanding in a related field in freight forwarding needs...

1. FREIGHT FORWARDER SALES MANAGER (1)

- Male-Female not more than 45 years old
- Experienced in related field for 5 years with Domestic Shipping Industry
- Extensive marketing knowledge
- Excellent communication skills

2. ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE (3)

- Male-Female not more than 25 years old
- Excellent communication skills
- Pleasing personality, aggressive and results-oriented
- 2 years experienced in sales, Shipping Sales a Plus
- With Driver's License preferred

Interested parties please mail or e-mail your resumé to:
1957-59 M. Adriatico St., Malate, Manila
Fax# (02) 400-4964 email addr: fbicreefer@yahoo.com

JOB Market visit us at: www.jobmarketonline.com JOB Market ONLINE

CDK International Manpower Services Corp.

POEA Lic. No. 002 LB-010603 R

Main Office:
Suite Nos. 2 & 3 G/F Midland Plaza Hotel
M. Adriatico St., Ermita Manila, Phil.
Tel. No. 536-8350 / 523-8665 / 536-3271
Fax No. 523-8666 / 536-3273
E-mail Add: cdk@compass.com.ph
http//www.cdkinternational.com

Cebu Branch:
SUITE 3 Galleria Fuente Bldg.
Maxilom Ave., Cebu City
Telefax: (032) 256-3206

AL MUSBAH TRADING GROUP

POEA Accreditation No. under process

REQUIRED URGENTLY!!!

JOBS! JOBS! JOBS! JOBS! JOBS! JOBS! JOBS! JOBS! JOBS! JOBS! JOBS! JOBS!

FOR
JEDDAH, KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA!!!

.NET DEVELOPERS
C++ PROGRAMMERS
NETWORK ENGINEERS
GRAPHIC, MULTIMEDIA & WEB DESIGNERS & ELECTRONIC TECHNICIANS
ELECTRICAL, CIVIL & STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS
ARCHITECTS, AUTOCAD & 3D SPECIALIST
PRIVATE TUTORS AND PROFESSIONAL COOKS

FOREVISION BUSINESS SOLUTIONS, an offshoot of AL MUSBAH TRADING GROUP and headquartered in Jeddah, the commercial capital of Saudi Arabia is a global provider of state of the art Software Solutions, Document Management, POS and Human Resources Management and Intelligent Transportation Systems. In addition, we provide outsourced IT services in the area of customized software development, web based applications and Intranet / Internet based portal on Microsoft Share Point and CMS.

Staffed with talented and motivated software development team, it focuses on continued improvement and enhancement of products to meet the aim of complete client satisfaction. We are urgently in need of the following positions.

Applicants should submit all their credentials before the scheduled interview dates for document evaluation and preliminary screening. Salary for the above positions will be commensurate with experience including Middle East benefits. Excellent career path under a professional environment.

Employer final interview will be on 1st week of July onwards 2006 in Manila.

Interested applicants may apply personally at the above address beside Robinsons Place Ermita or at our Cebu branch daily from Monday – Friday & SAturday (Half Day) only. Please bring two (2) sets of resumé with typewritten job description, photocopy of diploma or transcript of records, employment certificates, NBI Clearance, valid passport, 4 pcs. 2x2 & whole body pictures, 1 long brown envelope and other pertinent documents OR YOU CAN VISIT OUR ON LINE APPLICATION THRU OUR WEBSITE – www.cdkinternational.com

For Manpower Pooling Only
No fees to be collected / Beware of illegal recruiters.

The Mediators Network for Sustainable Peace, (MedNet), Inc. as an institution advocating for the promotion of transformative and empowering dispute resolution processes vigorously supports recent developments concerning Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) or Empowering Dispute Resolution / Management Process (EDRMP). MedNet was founded upon the success of the use of mediation as an alternative means of resolving agrarian and resource use conflicts. It has since been carving a niche in community mediation and interest-based negotiation, two of the processes of EDRMP.

Mediators Network for Sustainable Peace (Mednet), Inc.

is in need of an

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Qualifications:

- College graduate, preferably with master's degree or equivalent
- With at least five (5) years experience in development work
- Credibility to or strong networking with funding institutions
- With experience in organizational management
- With writing and editing skills
- With orientation towards empowerment (including gender and development) and consensus-building

Added preferred qualifications:

- With background in social marketing
- With finance and administration background
- Has experience in research

Duties and Functions:

- Perform the duties and functions of the National Coordinator of the "Development of Models of Participatory and Empowering Resolution or Management of Public Disputes at the National and Local Levels, and Strengthening the Capacity of MedNet to Advocate for their Wider Adoption at the National and Local Levels" Project being funded by the Katholische Zentalstelle fur Entwicklungshilfe e.V. (KZE); and act as project coordinator of other MedNet projects unless the Board of Trustees opts to assign a different project coordinator;
- Prepare project proposals in pursuit of the Vision, Mission and Goals of MedNet;
- In coordination with the President, represent MedNet in networks, meetings with donors and partners, public gatherings and discussions, and meetings;
- Manage the day-to-day operations of MedNet;
- Ensure that the financial, management and administrative systems and policies of the office are sound, and properly implemented;
- Sign checks and contracts in accordance with the policies adopted by the Board of Trustees;
- Ensure that MedNet members are properly and adequately informed of the developments in the organization, and are provided with opportunities and encouragement to participate in MedNet activities;
- Preside over staff meetings, planning sessions, workshops, and similar processes;
- Monitor and evaluate staff performance;
- Make regular reports to, or whenever requested by, the Board of Trustees;
- Prepare and coordinate regular and special meetings of the Board of Trustees and the Executive Committee;
- Coordinate the delivery of MedNet services, such as, training and actual consensus-building interventions;
- Perform other functions as the Board of Trustees, by itself or through the Executive Committee, may assign.

Send applications and inquiries to:

Mediators Network for Sustainable Peace (MedNet), Inc.
Unit 315 Llanar Bldg., 77 Xavierville Ave., Loyola Heights, Quezon City
Tel: (02) 926-3060 Telefax: (02) 433-3060
Email: mednet@pacific.net.ph or med_net99@yahoo.com.ph

Deadline for submission of applications: July 20, 2006

CHMI PRODUCTS, INC.

A local pharmaceutical company is in urgent need of:

LICENSED PHARMACIST

- ☐ Preferably single
- ☐ With at least 1 year work experience pref. in a pharmaceutical company
- ☐ Computer literate

MEDICAL REPRESENTATIVES

- ☐ Graduate of a 4-year course preferably Pharmacy, Nursing, PT or related courses
- ☐ Honest, hardworking & pref. w/ sales experience
- ☐ Willing to be assigned to any part of Luzon

Apply from Monday-Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
in business attire at:

#14-A Brooklyn St., Cubao, Quezon city
Tel. Nos. 410-2859 / 721-5907

Submit resumé with picture, Transcript of Records,
NBI or Police Clearance

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

TRAVEL ADMINISTRATOR

UNDP

VACANCY NO.: 2006/01 (A) - SC

Duties and Responsibilities

Specifically, he/she shall be required to :

- Provide quality assurance screening on the full range of services of the common UN Travel Service Provider contracted by UNDP for and in behalf of the UN Agencies, through direct and constant coordination with the Relationship Manager appointed by the Travel Service Provider to liaise with the UN. Such coordination shall include, but need not be limited to, the following:
  - Regular review of travel-related transaction details and ensuring accuracy of details, while implementing improvements based on the customer feedback and results of performance reviews;
  - Ensure timely submission and accuracy of all reports required by the UN from the Travel Service providers, presenting the same to OMT whenever requested to do so;
  - Conduct periodic performance evaluation surveys as they come due or as needed, consolidate and analyze its results, submit actionable recommendations to the UN Operations Management Team (OMT), and present findings to the OMT;
  - Facilitate, if needed, the timely and quality delivery of services to UN travelers, specially those that are surrounded by unusually challenging situations, or where more thorough and careful attention to details is needed.
- Conduct and facilitate regular coordination meetings with all the UN Agencies, whether to present reports, write position papers, or recommend courses of actions on the directions of the Common UN Travel Services arrangements, including issues that need UN agreements and/or resolution;
- Regularly monitor the competitiveness of the airline rates/ corporate rates relative to other prices, promotions, and new products offered to the UN and in the travel market, negotiating for the best rates whenever possible, and ensuring that UN Agencies get the best value for money;
- Benchmark with other agencies e.g. WHO, ADB, WB, regarding market practices, new technologies, and trends in travel services, further analyzing its impact to the UN, and submit appropriate recommendations to OMT for possible application in the UN; and
- Conduct and perform other related functions and responsibilities as may be required by the ARR-A and/or the OMT.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- Bachelor's Degree in Tourism, Management, or other related fields;
- At least five (5) years experience with, direct exposure to, and/or knowledge of the travel industry and its practices;
- Excellent client-service orientation, and outstanding people skills at all levels of an organization;
- Extensive knowledge of MS Word, Excel, Powerpoint and other Windows-based applications;
- Excellent oral and written command of the English language; and
- Unquestionable integrity and diligence at daily work.

Applicants are requested to complete the UN Personal History Form (P.11), available in our website www.undp.org.ph/jobs/ and send to:

Human Resources Unit
United Nations Development Programme
30th Floor, Yuchengco Tower, RCBC Plaza
Ayala Avenue corner Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue
Makati City

Indicating the Vacancy No. and Post Title on or before 7 July 2006. Kindly note that only completed P11 forms will be reviewed. Please note that we will contact only the short-listed candidates.UNDP is an equal opportunity employer and invites Filipino nationals to apply for the post.

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- Computer literate with power point presentation skills.
- Similar experience in same capacity is an advantage.
- Can communicate well in oral and written English & Tagalog.
- Personable, energetic and can work under minimum supervision.
- Can start work immediately.
- Has valid Philippine passport.

Due to the urgency of the above positions, qualified applicants are requested to apply in person with their updated resumé and recent photo to:

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355 P. Tuazon Blvd. cor. 21st Avenue
Cubao, Quezon City
or you may email us at cubao@edmark-intl.com

SKYWORLD BUSINESS MERGER, INC.
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- with strong leadership capabilities and poeple management competency
- flexible or can easily adjust to changes or improvement in requirements
- a strategic thinker with good analytical capabilities

(10) MARKET SPECIALIST

- FEMALE, single, not more than 27 years old with pleasing personality
- Graduate of any course (graduates of business related course would have a definite advantage).

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The successful candidate must value the importance of a long-term Career profession, willing to handle work in a pressure-filled atmosphere, goal-oriented and self-motivated, and with efficient communication skills.

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Requirements:

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For interested applicants, please contact tel. nos. **528-0238 / 527-3357/ 528-0258** or e-mail us at **bflife@tri-isys.com**

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Call Mercy at 638-7719 / 20 for more information / reservation. Limited seats only.

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- Have been involved in all phases of System Development Life Cycle : System Analysis, Design, Coding, Testing, Implementation and Documentation
- Must have a good grasp of business requirements
- Must possess good interpersonal and analytical skills
- Can work with minimum supervision

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANTS
- Bachelor's degree, preferably in a business-related course
- At least 2 years relevant work experience
- Excellent typing skills and knowledgeable with MS Office
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Good interpersonal skills and positive work attitude
- Willing to work long hours

LIBRARIAN
- Graduate of BS Library Science or BS Education major in Library Science
- Possesses above-average oral and written communication skills
- Has pleasing personality and positive work attitude

RECRUITMENT ASSISTANT
- Bachelor's degree in Psychology, Behavioral Science, or Human Resource Management
- Knowledgeable in MS Office
- At least 1 year relevant work experience
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Good interpersonal skills and positive work attitude
- Willing to work long hours

HR ASSISTANT
- Bachelor's degree in Psychology, Behavioral Science, Human Resources Management or any related course
- At least 1 year work experience
- Good interpersonal skills and positive work attitude
- Willing to work long hours and do field work (must be familiar with the Metro Manila Area particularly Government Offices)
- Must be proficient in using MS Office particularly MS Excel

Competitive compensation, benefits, world-class training and professional growth await the successful applicants. To apply, email your resumé to sgvhrd@ph.ey.com or mail to:

Human Resources Group
3/F, SGV 1 Bldg.
6760 Ayala Avenue
Makati City 1226

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PROJECT MANAGER

Job summary
- Manage projects in the E-Commerce Group of the company
- Responsible for leading project kickoff meetings, develop and manage project plans, resolve and manage project issues and risks

Requirements
- At least 5 years experience in organizing, planning and executing large-scale projects with 2 years managerial/supervisory role
- Experience in managing complex management process and ability to automate such processes to fullest extent
- Excellent leadership and problem solving skills

WEB DEVELOPERS

Job summary
- Responsible for the creation and development of intranet content for global corporate communication
- Ensures adherence to development design and standards

Requirements
- Equipped with at least 3 years working experience in web design and development
- Expert knowledge of RubyOnRails, PHP, HTML, DHTML, CSS and Javascript
- Knowledge of different browsers & W3C standards
- Knowledge of a scripting language a plus. (i.e. Perl, Python)
- Experience with AJAX, Java, Unix, Linux environment and utilities a plus

Basic requirements
- Bachelor or Master's Degree in Computer Science, Information Technology or other related field of study, or an equivalent combination of education and work related experience
- Demonstrated effective verbal and written communication skills
- Experience in an IT consulting firm or hospitality industry an advantage
- Ability to function in a highly dynamic and changing environment

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Walk-in applicants are welcome.
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BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

The Australian Trade Commission (Austrade) is an agency of the Australian Government that helps Australian companies win international business for their products and services. Co-located in the Australian Embassy in Manila, it is part of a global network of 108 offices in 57 countries and is headed by a Senior Trade Commissioner.

Austrade Manila is seeking a Business Development Manager to join our Manila team. This key role will involve developing business opportunities in the agribusiness & the food & beverage sectors.

You will be required to manage a number of customers in your portfolio of both Philippine and Australian based companies. The position will require the application of professional sales and marketing skills so experience of this nature is desirable. A degree or higher education in this discipline will also be viewed favourably.

We offer an attractive remuneration package, a 5-day working week, solid commitment to personal development and a rewarding and pleasant environment in an international context. The position may require some travel, both domestic and international.

For more details and a copy of application form are available at (www.australia.com.ph/mnla/aboutus.html). *Only application forms emailed to the specified Austrade email address will be accepted. Mail or fax copies are not valid. Deadline for submission of application is c.o.b 07July06.*

Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted for interview.

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The country's most widely read and circulated newspaper in the country is in need of:

PRE-PRESS SPECIALIST

QUALIFICATIONS:
- College graduate preferably with background in Computer
- With solid layout and design skills set in a newspaper publishing environment
- Advanced knowledge in Photoshop, Illustrator, Freehand, Corel Draw, Pagemaker and Acrobat
- Understanding in color management systems
- Fluent in both Windows OS and Macintosh environments

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS

QUALIFICATIONS:
- College graduate
- At least 5 years selling experience
- Must have a successful track record in sales preferably managing dealers and key accounts a consumer setting or similar function
- Minimal supervision and highly energetic and motivated person
- Planning, execution and post project evaluation skills required
- Highly effective and visible negotiation skills
- Volume and peso forecasting and logistics know-how
- Effective presentation skills
- Willing to be assigned in Northern or Southern Luzon, Visayas and/or Mindanao

CIRCULATION ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE ASST.

QUALIFICATIONS:
- College graduate preferably major in Accounting
- At least 1 year experience in similar job or jobs leading to it.
- Basic Accounting Principles, Computer skills, Numerical skills, Analytical skills, Interpersonal skills, Communication skills

ELECTRICIAN

QUALIFICATIONS:
- College graduate or a certificate holder of Industrial Electrical Technology
- 1 to 2 years experience in this job or jobs leading to it.
- Basic electrical principles
- Basic Computer operation skills, Interpersonal skills

FINANCE DIVISION SECRETARY

QUALIFICATIONS:
- College graduate preferably with background in Accounting
- 1 year experience in related job.
- With secretarial skills
- Knowledge of basic office and e-mail software
- Knowledge of basic computer program, Typing Skills, Communication Skills, Basic Writing Skills, Interpersonal Skills, Filing Skills

SYSTEMS ANALYST / PROGRAMMER

QUALIFICATIONS:
- College graduate preferably Computer Science or Computer Engineering with Business background
- Background in Computer hardware
- 1 to 2 years experience on this job or jobs leading to it
- Knowledge in Visual Basic or Powerbuilder, VB Scripting, Perl Scripting, Web Programming, MS SQL 2000 or Sybase SQL or other relational database, Management System

DRIVER

QUALIFICATIONS:
- High School graduate
- Holder of a professional driver's license
- 1 to 2 years experience in collection work or similar field
- Familiar with city roads, districts and areas
- Knowledge of simple / basic mechanical repairs
- Knowledge of traffic rules and regulations

Send your application letter and comprehensive resumé to:

THE HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
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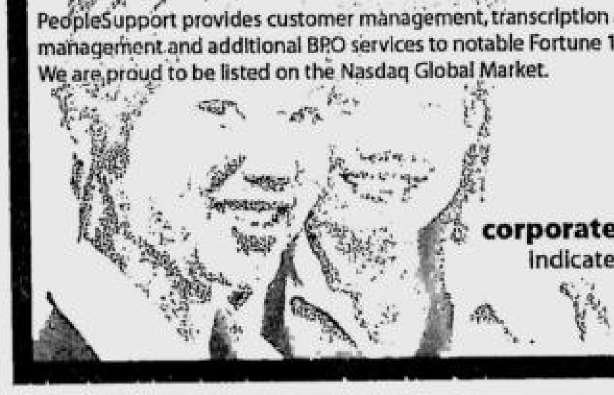

Email resume to
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Indicate position on the subject line.

PMAP to hold a 4-day workshop

THE PERSONNEL Management Association of the Philippines is sponsoring a four-day workshop on Essentials of Human Resource Management is scheduled on June 26-29.

This course aims to provide participants with a theoretical foundation as well as a perspective from which to view the overall human resource management function as it is integrated with the total corporate function.

Participants will gain the needed knowledge and skills to enable them to perform the different functional operations in human resource management while providing them insights on current issues and trends involved in the practice of the profession.

Registration fee is P9,400 for PMAP Member and P10,950 for Non PMAP Member.

For reservations, please contact The Human Resource Management Development Center at telephone numbers 726-1581; 726-1588 or 726-1532; email address: mira.jakosalem@pmap.org.ph or you may visit the website: www.pmap.org.ph

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Has at least five (5) years experience on the following.
- ✓ Refrigeration - reefer van, walk-in freezer, etc.
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Has a driver's license. Preferably a resident of nearby areas
Willing to work on a shifting schedule
Male, graduate of any related course

Franchise Operations Officer

Willing to do field work (outlet inspection, construction supervision of franchise outlet)
Articulate and detailed in work
Has experience in planning, delegating and coordinating
Must have the ability to communicate ideas to various groups and different levels of Management
Male, graduate of any four year course

Quality Assurance (In-line) Officer

Ensure consistent quality from raw materials to finished products
Enthusiastic in establishing additional quality standards
Knowledge in preparation of QA reports & other documents required
With at least 1 year experience in food mfg. company
Willing to work on shifting schedule
B.S. Food Technology graduate
Female, not more than 30 years old

Accounting Staff

Computer literate and proficient in Ms Office
Good in both oral and written communication
Flexible and organized
At least 1 year experience in the same capacity
Female, not more than 30 years old
BS Accountancy graduate - a must

Personally submit your resumé on: Tuesday and Thursday - 10:00 AM at SEBANTI FOODS, INC., Don Mariano Lim Complex La Fuerza Compd., Alabang Zapote-Road, Las Piñas City (beside Toyota Alabang) Tel. Nos. 772-2771 or 73 *Be ready for an interview.*

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- Graduate of I.E. or any business related course preferably with MBA
- With at least 5 years related work experience in truck fleet and warehouse management
- Not more than 40 years old
- Excellent in communication skills and computer application operations

PROJECT ANALYST

- Industrial Engineering graduate
- Not more than 30 years old
- Preferably with experience in logistics operations
- Highly analytical

JOB DESCRIPTION:
- *To conduct Time and Motion study.*
- *To establish standard output.*

(2) DIESEL MECHANIC

- College or Vocational Graduate
- Not more than 35 years old
- Knowledge in diesel engine overhauling, under chassis, etc.
- At least one-two (1-2) years experience

Previous applicants need not apply.

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or apply at :
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- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Fine Arts, Advertising/Media or equivalent
- Preferably 2 yrs minimum experience in graphic and web design
- Adept in PC & MAC, Proficient in Adobe Photoshop, Illustrator, Indesign, Macromedia Dreamweaver and Flash, Corel Draw, Microsoft Office
- Knowledgeable in creating and maintaining websites
- Knowledge in PC troubleshooting & network setup is a plus

Please send resumé at
Raffles Corporate Center, Unit 2003, Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City
You may call at (02)9150800 or 9150168 or email hrd@mobile-wonders.com
And look for Ms. Odette Bondoc or Rommel Jurado

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1) **FOOD TECH** – F, 21-27 yrs. old, 1 yr. exp. in food mfg. industry, must be willing to work in Tanauan, Batangas, knowledge of food chemistry, microbiology & sensory evaluation.
2) **SAFETY OFFICER** – M/F, 23-30 yrs. old, must possess at least Bachelor's/college degree in Engineering, must have 2 yrs. exp. in handling environmental, health & safety standards.
3) **ACCOUNTING CLERKS** – M/F, 21-28 yrs. old, computer literate, willing to work under pressure and minimal supervision.
4) **MERCHANDISERS / SALES DEMO** – M/F, 18-25 yrs. old, at least 5'7" in height for male, 5'3" in height for female, college level, with pleasing personality & willing to be assigned anywehre in Metro Manila.
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Requirements:
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- Transcript of Records
- Board Rating
- 2 pieces of whole body pictures
- College & High School Diploma
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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

INQUIRER COMICS Sunday

JUNE 25, 2006

1

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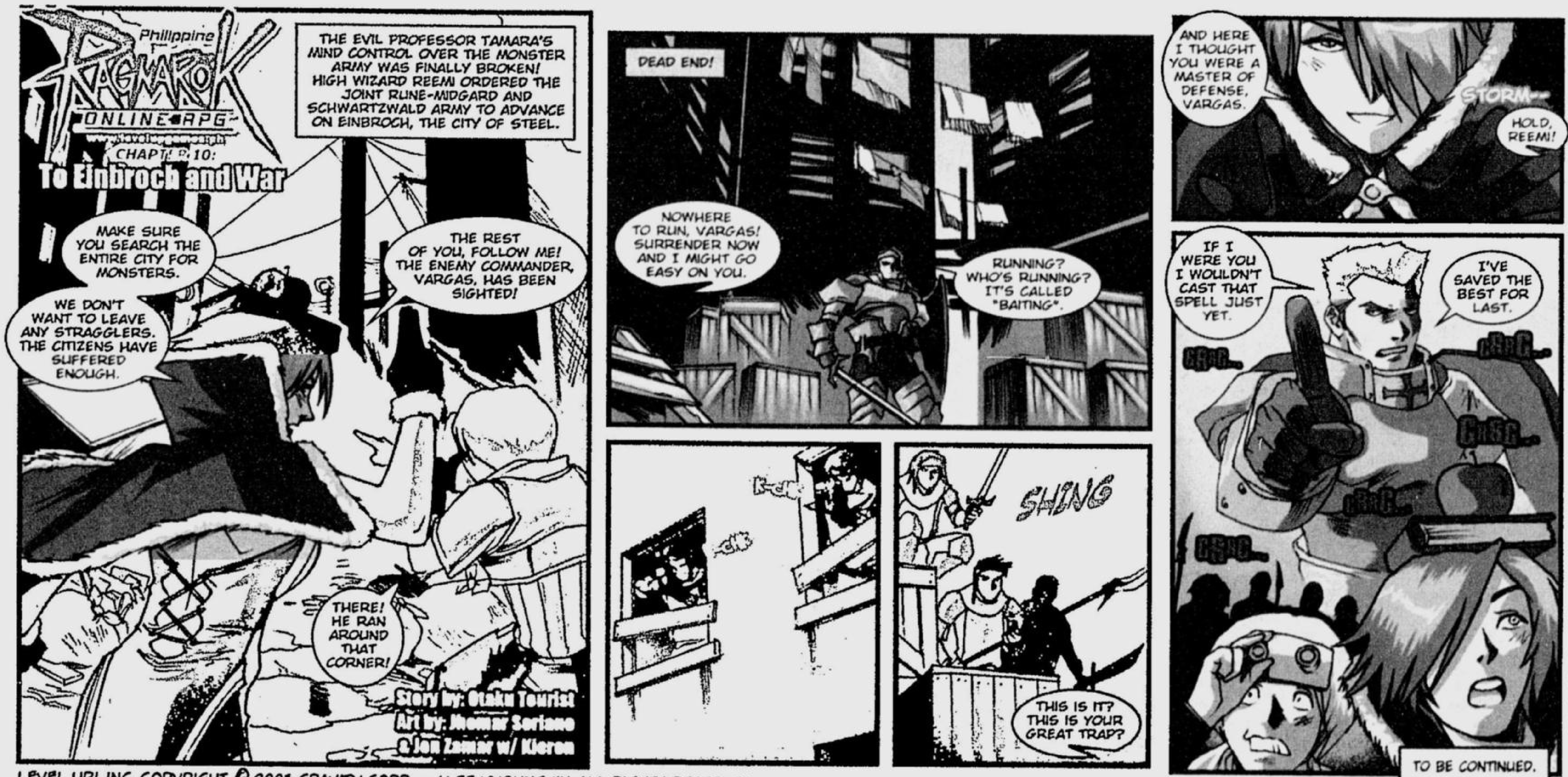
RAGNAROK

BY LEVEL UP GAMES


Philippine Ragnarok ONLINE RPG
CHAPTER 10:
To Einbroch and War
THE EVIL PROFESSOR TAMARA'S MIND CONTROL OVER THE MONSTER ARMY WAS FINALLY BROKEN! HIGH WIZARD REEMI ORDERED THE JOINT RUNE-MIDGARD AND SCHWARTZWALD ARMY TO ADVANCE ON EINBROCH, THE CITY OF STEEL.
MAKE SURE YOU SEARCH THE ENTIRE CITY FOR MONSTERS.
WE DON'T WANT TO LEAVE ANY STRAGGLERS. THE CITIZENS HAVE SUFFERED ENOUGH.
THE REST OF YOU, FOLLOW ME! THE ENEMY COMMANDER, VARGAS, HAS BEEN SIGHTED!
THERE! HE RAN AROUND THAT CORNER!
Story by: Otaku Tourist
Art by: Jhomar Soriano
& Jon Zamar w/ Kieron
DEAD END!
NOWHERE TO RUN, VARGAS! SURRENDER NOW AND I MIGHT GO EASY ON YOU.
RUNNING? WHO'S RUNNING? IT'S CALLED "BAITING".
K-CHK
SHING
THIS IS IT? THIS IS YOUR GREAT TRAP?
AND HERE I THOUGHT YOU WERE A MASTER OF DEFENSE, VARGAS.
STORM--
HOLD, REEMI!
IF I WERE YOU I WOULDN'T CAST THAT SPELL JUST YET.
I'VE SAVED THE BEST FOR LAST.
GRRG...
GRRG...
GRRG...
GRRG...
GRRG...
TO BE CONTINUED.

EPISODE 12: LIGHTHALZEN WEBSITE NOW UP! HTTP://WWW.RAGNAROK.PH/EPISODE12 SARAP DITO!

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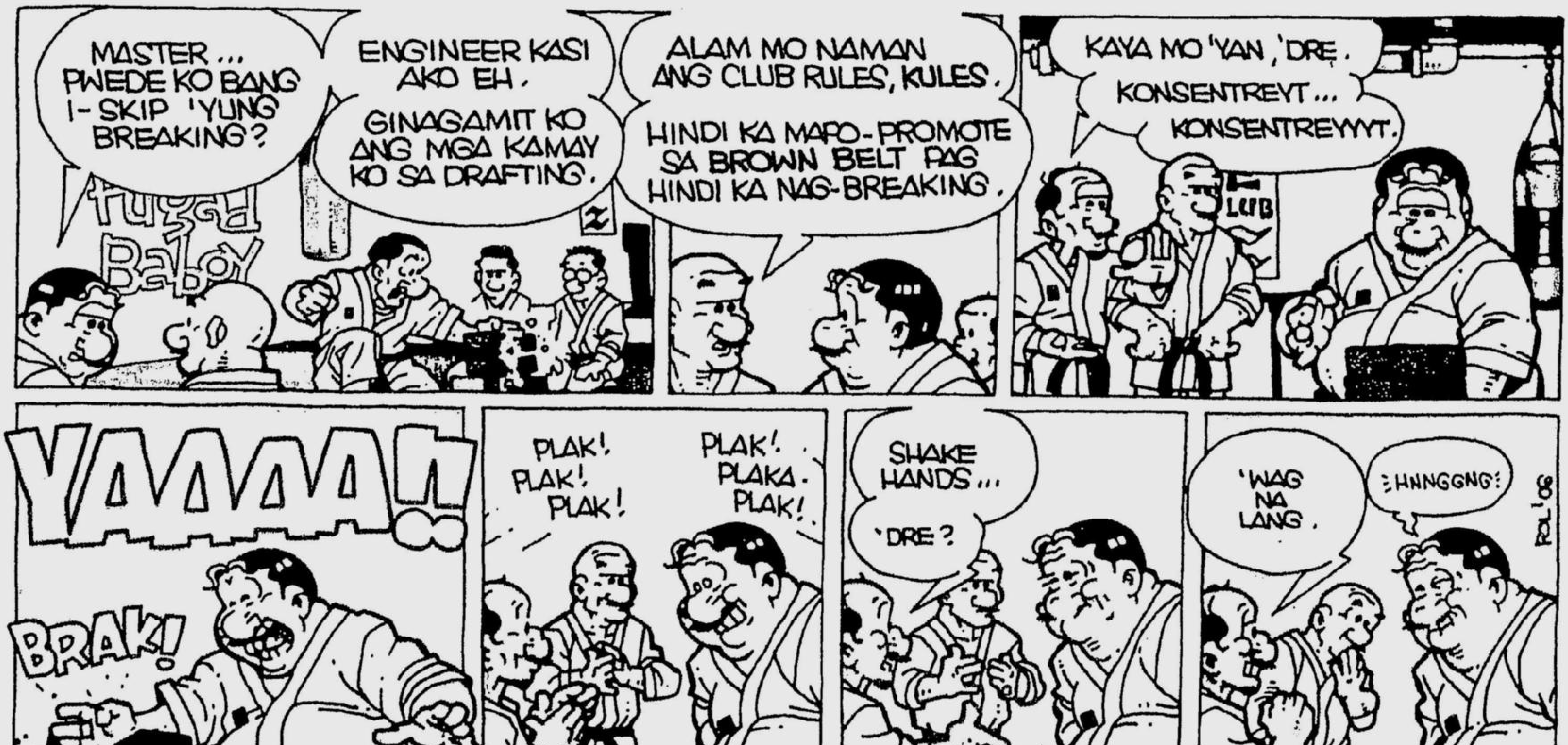
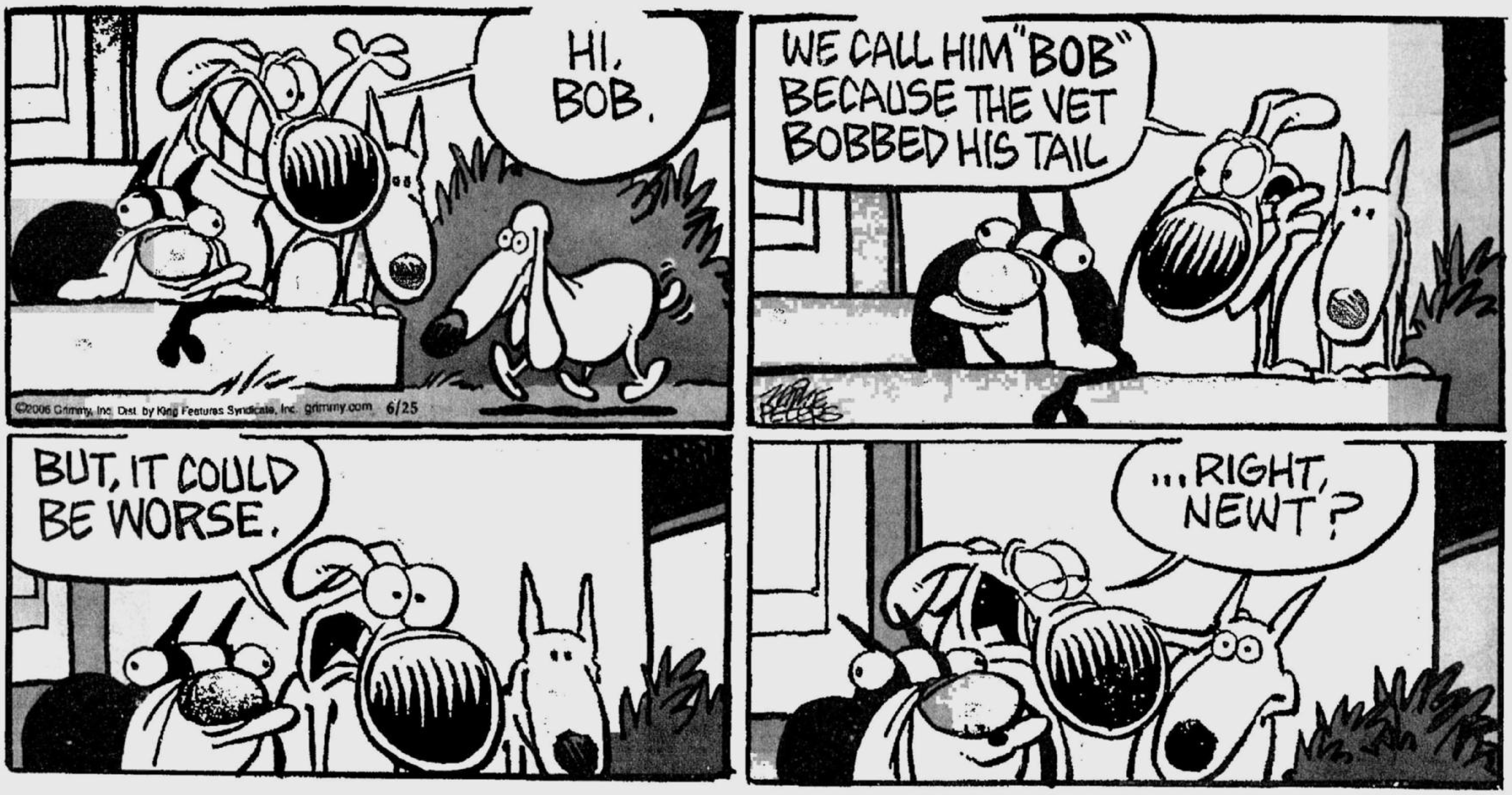
PUGAD BABOY

BY POL MEDINA JR.


MASTER... PWEDE KO BANG I-SKIP 'YUNG BREAKING?
ENGINEER KASI AKO EH.
GINAGAMIT KO ANG MGA KAMAY KO SA DRAFTING.
Pugad Baboy
ALAM MO NAMAN ANG CLUB RULES, KULES.
HINDI KA MAPO-PROMOTE SA BROWN BELT PAG HINDI KA NAG-BREAKING.
KAYA MO 'YAN, 'DRE.
KONSENTREYT...
KONSENTREYYYT.
LUB
YAAAAH!!
BRAK!
PLAK! PLAK! PLAK!
PLAK! PLAKA-PLAK!
SHAKE HANDS...
'DRE?
'WAG NA LANG.
HNNGGNG
POL '06

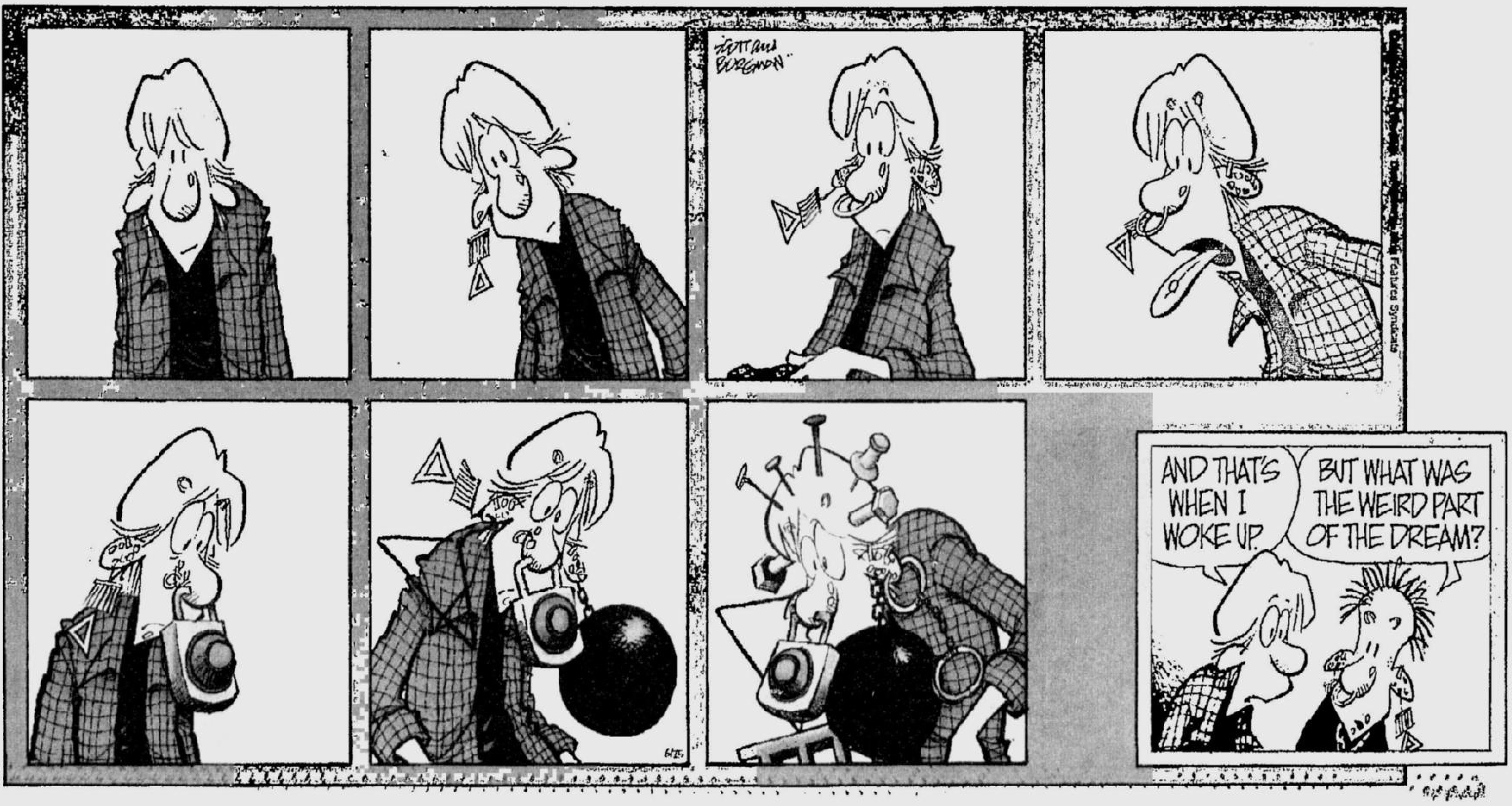
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS


HI, BOB.
WE CALL HIM "BOB" BECAUSE THE VET BOBBED HIS TAIL
BUT, IT COULD BE WORSE.
...RIGHT, NEWT?
©2006 Grimmy, Inc. Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc. grimmy.com 6/25
Mike Peters

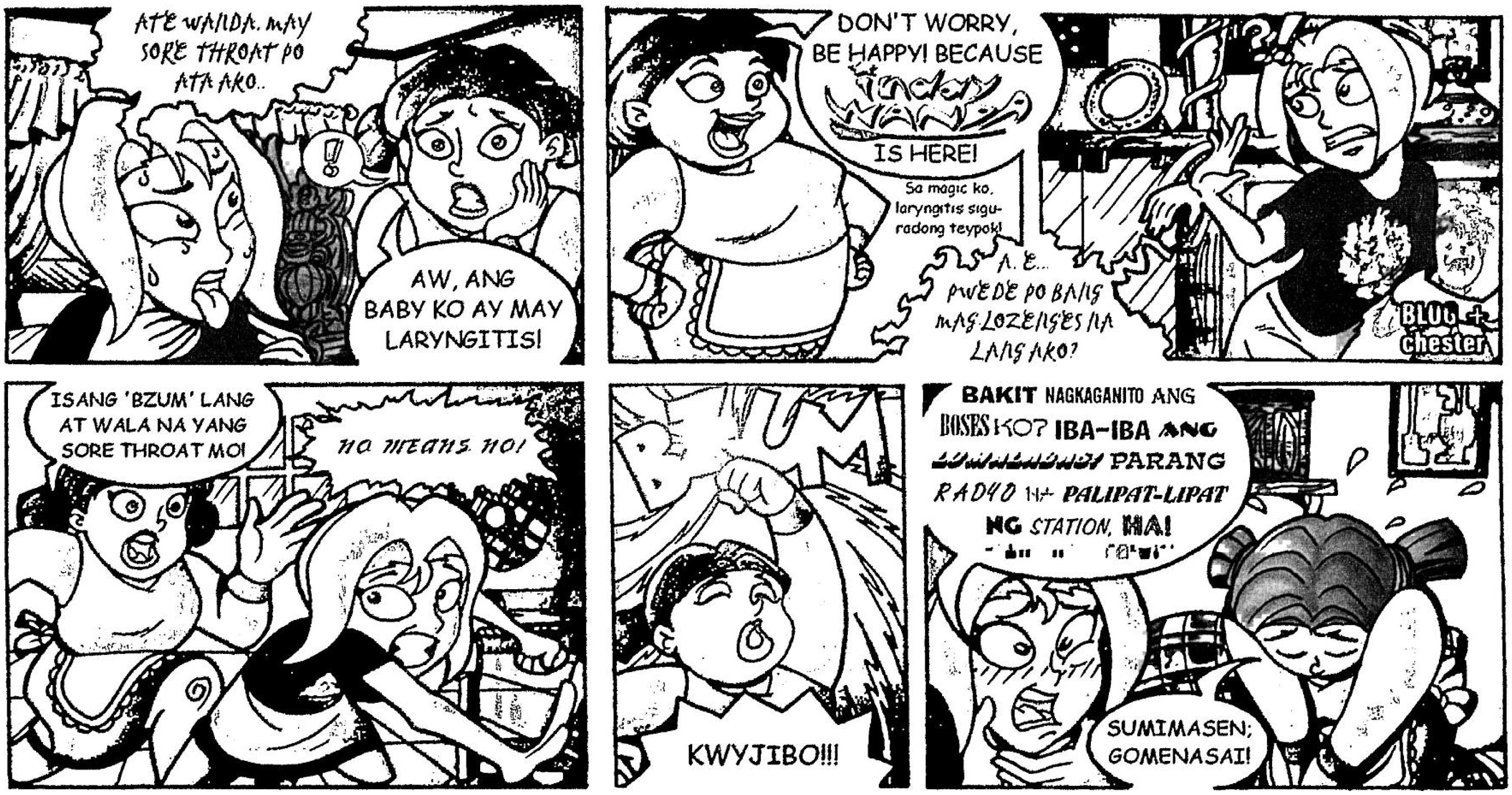
ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN


Scott and Borgman
Features Syndicate
AND THAT'S WHEN I WOKE UP.
BUT WHAT WAS THE WEIRD PART OF THE DREAM?

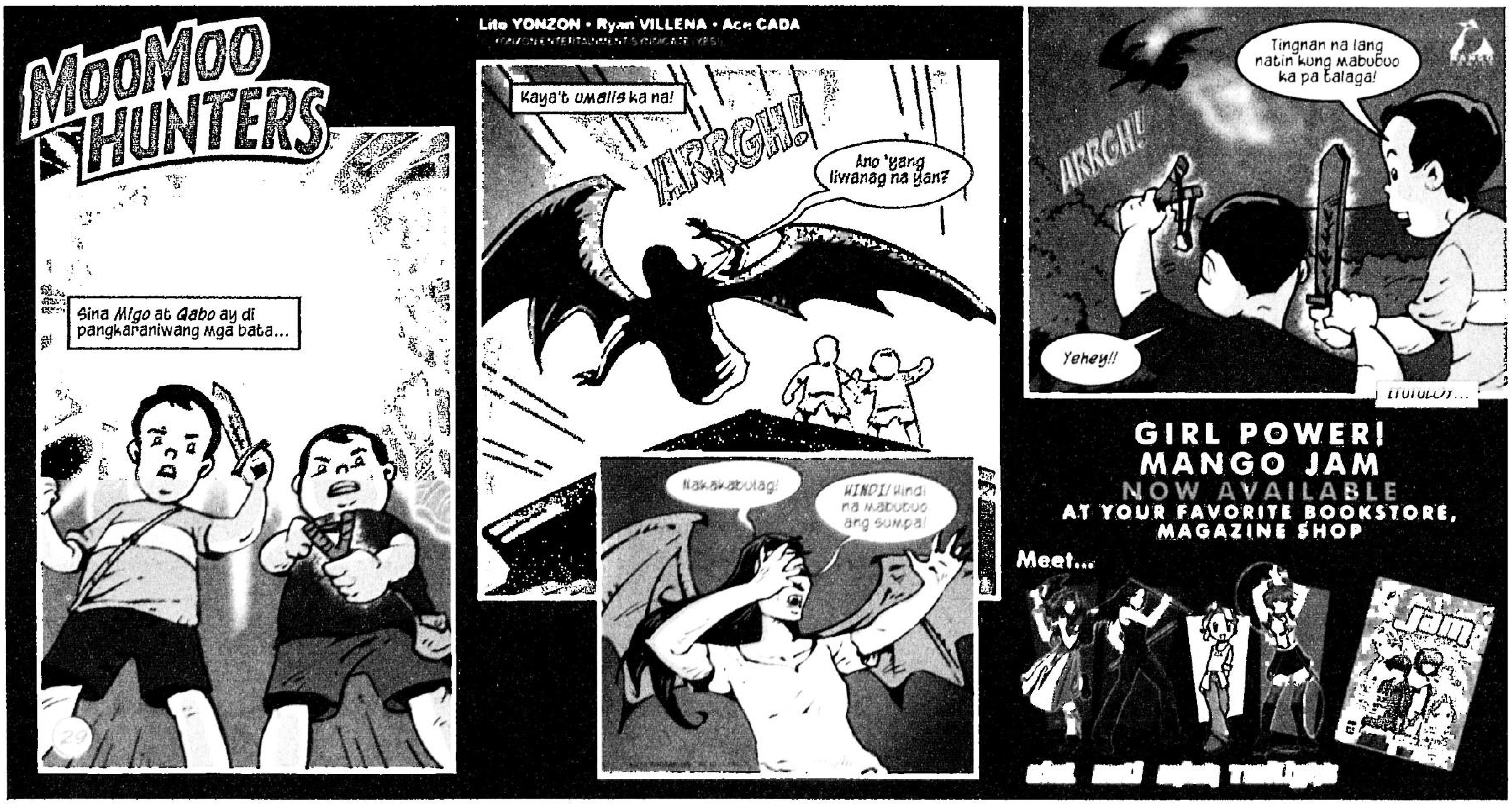
INDAY WANDA

BY BLOG CALIGUIA


ATE WANDA. MAY SORE THROAT PO ATA AKO..
!
AW, ANG BABY KO AY MAY LARYNGITIS!
DON'T WORRY, BE HAPPY! BECAUSE Inday WANDA IS HERE!
Sa magic ko, laryngitis sigu-radong teypok!
A. E... PWEDE PO BANG MAG LOZENGES NA LANG AKO?
?!
BLOG + chester
ISANG 'BZUM' LANG AT WALA NA YANG SORE THROAT MO!
NO MEANS NO!
KWYJIBO!!!
BAKIT NAGKAGANITO ANG BOSES KO? IBA-IBA ANG [illegible] PARANG RADYO NA PALIPAT-LIPAT NG STATION, HA!
SUMIMASEN; GOMENASAI!

MOOMOO HUNTERS

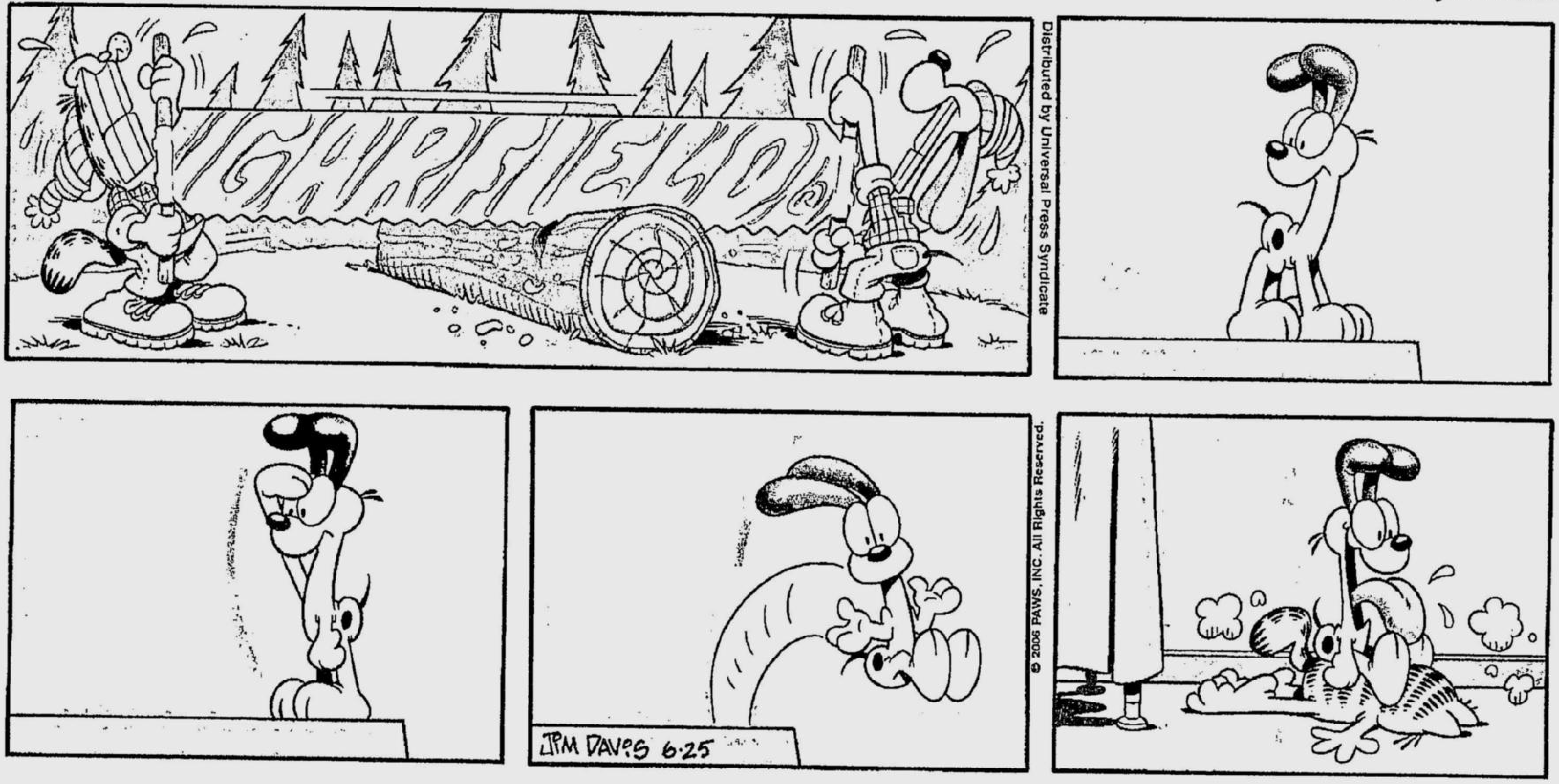
BY MANGO COMICS


MooMoo HUNTERS
Lito YONZON • Ryan VILLENA • Ace CADA
Sina Migo at Gabo ay di pangkaraniwang mga bata...
Kaya't umalis ka na!
ARRGH!
Ano 'yang liwanag na yan?
Nakakabulag!
HINDI! Hindi na mabubuo ang sumpa!
ARRGH!
Tingnan na lang natin kung mabubuo ka pa talaga!
Yehey!!
ITUTULOY...

GIRL POWER!
MANGO JAM
NOW AVAILABLE
AT YOUR FAVORITE BOOKSTORE, MAGAZINE SHOP
Meet...

GARFIELD

BY JIM DAVIS


GARFIELD
JPM DAVIS 6-25

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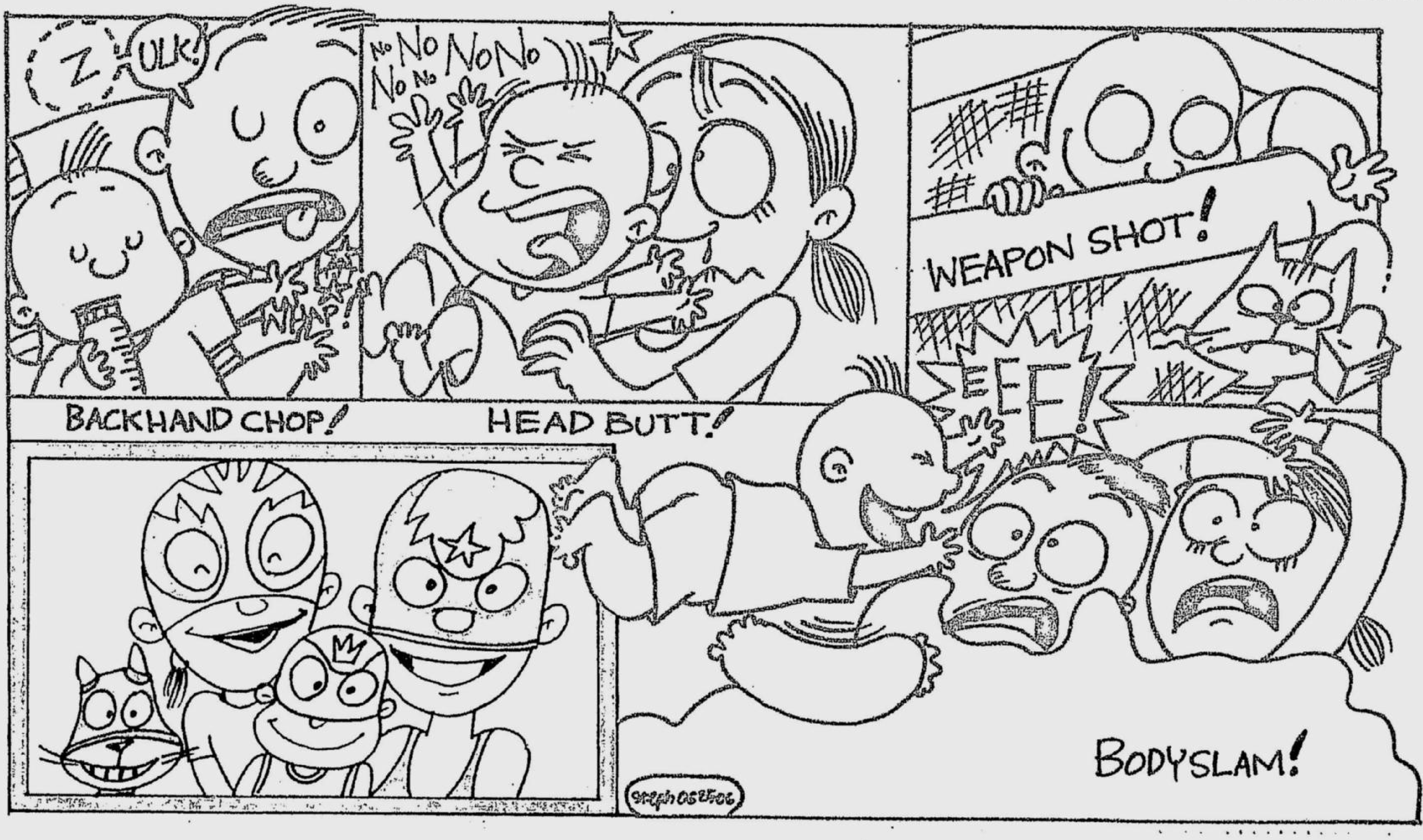
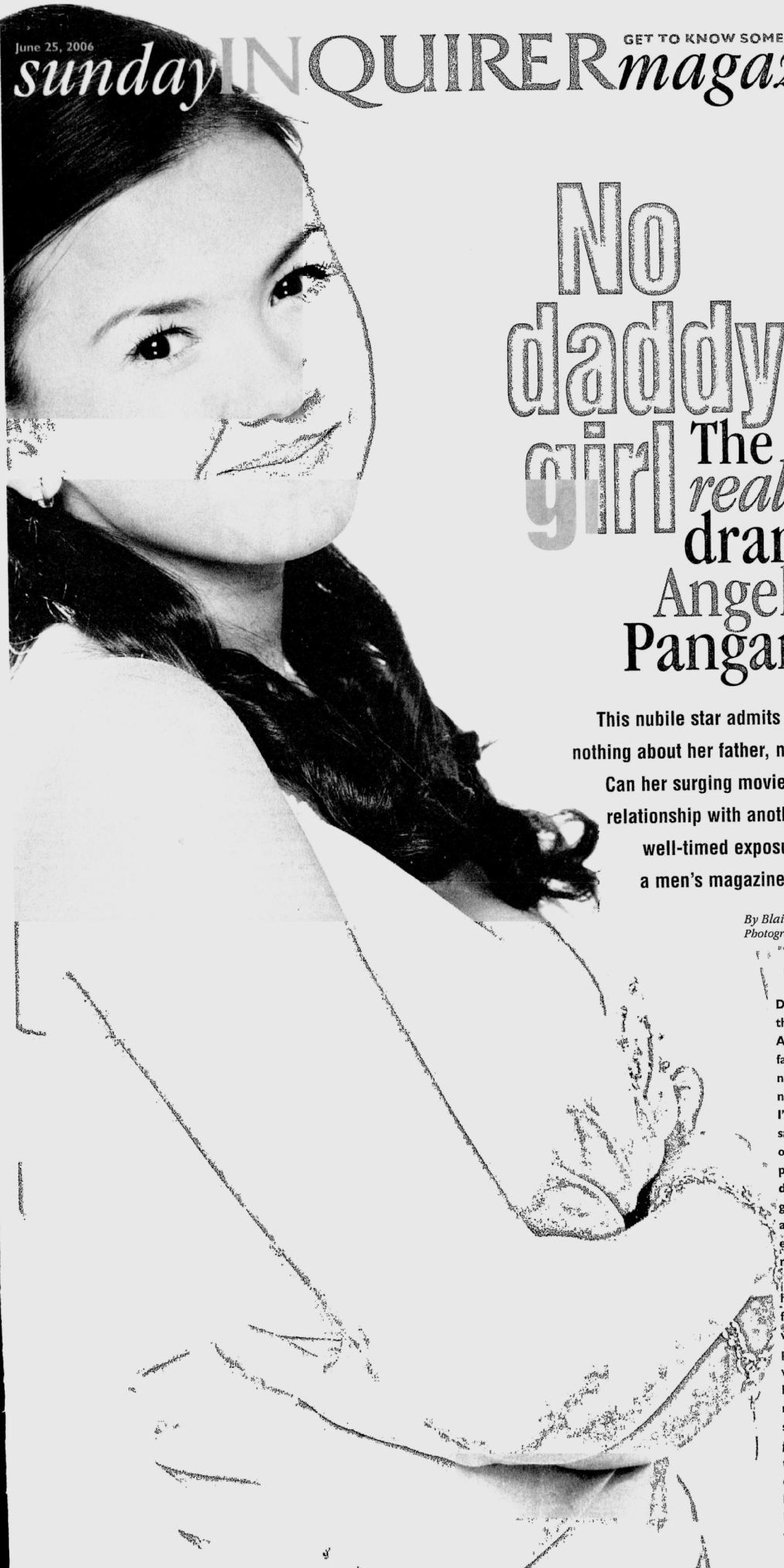
FULL HOUSE

BY STEPH BRAVO


Z
ULK!
WHAP!
BACKHAND CHOP!
No No No No No No
HEAD BUTT!
WEAPON SHOT!
EEE!
BODYSLAM!
steph 062506

June 25, 2006
sunday INQUIRER magazine
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE



No daddy's girl

The *real-life* drama *of* Angelica Panganiban

This nubile star admits she knows almost nothing about her father, not even his name. Can her surging movie career, long-time relationship with another young star and well-timed exposure on the cover of a men's magazine make up for that?

By Blaise C. Gacoscos
Photographs by Edward dela Cuesta for Star Magic

YOUNG actress Angelica David Panganiban says she is the only daughter of Annabell Panganiban and a father she didn't know by name. "Maybe I knew his name when I was a child but I've forgotten it now," she says. She has no memories of her father either. "Only a picture," she says. And she doesn't miss him. "I never grew up with a father," she adds. "Had I felt his presence then, I could have missed him today."

In her childhood, Angelica had thought that her grandfather, Alfredo Panganiban, was her father, until her playmates set her aright. "I was playing in a playmate's house and told the rest that my daddy was coming home soon with plenty of *pasalubong* (gifts).' But they told me, 'He's not your daddy, he's your *lolo*. You don't have a daddy...' I didn't cry. It wasn't an issue for me; I was too young then."

To page 4

The Cha-cha instructor introduced, *p.2*

The Cardinal remembered, *p.3*

The retiree reinvented, *p.6*

Sunday Inquirer Magazine June 25, 2006
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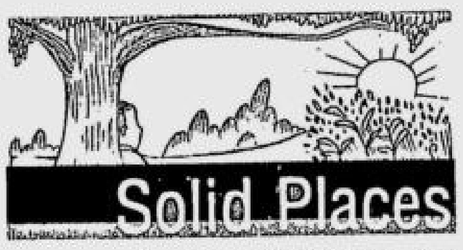


by Cecile Tuble, RC

Itinerant hearts

I have begun a 30-day silent retreat, an intense period of preparation for perpetual vows. The journeying and reckoning never ends and this rite of passage called vow prep, is a graced time to pray and rediscover what and who is essential and enduring.

JUNE 5, 2006. My taxi has seen better days, but I'm glad to have found it. It is 6 a.m., and as my taxi resolutely makes its way to the airport, I am struck by a very familiar sight that marks this particular Monday as special. The adults hurrying to work who have monopolized the streets all summer, now share space with students on their way to school. It is the first day of a new schoolyear, and like a faithful herald, it fills the morning with familiar outward signs of the more invisible rites of passage within.

Today marks such a rite of passage for our young parish, Our Lady of Pentecost, and our equally young, first parish priest, Fr. Steven Zabala. After seven amazing and fruitful years (during which the people and Steve built a real community and a beautiful church practically from scratch), change is now upon us.

Steve will transfer to another parish and the community will have a new parish priest. Like all transitions, it is filled with poignancy, and the pain of separation is keenly and mutually felt. I remember the words and gestures of deep affection and real love that many parishioners showed Steve, and his heartfelt response of joy and gratitude. Most of all, I am struck by his overriding concern that the parish remain vibrantly dreaming and creating, worthy of its name.

Today, too, marks another, more personal rite of passage. This morning's flight to Cebu heralds a new transition for me. I will make a 30-day silent retreat that begins an intense period of preparation for perpetual vows. It will certainly be a different experience from the first 30-day retreat I made many years ago as a young novice, for the heart has taken many journeys since, and love has gone through some serious reckoning. The journeying and reckoning will never end, I know, but this liminal place; this rite of passage called vow prep, is a graced time to pray and rediscover, in the midst of loss and change, what and who is essential and enduring.

Perhaps it is this paradox that priests like Steve and all vowed religious men and women are called to live out: a radical availability that impels one to give one's heart away for the sake of the mission, and yet remain interiorly free, ready to be sent elsewhere to begin again the endless process of self-pouring. What sustains such an itinerant heart is the unchanging faithfulness and enduring love of God, who is our life's reason for being. ◘

Controversies

by Nikko Dizon

Friends and foes describe lawyer Raul Lambino as sincere. But is the man behind the people's initiative for Charter change dancing to the presidential theme song?

ROGER CARPIO

The Pied Piper of cha-cha

JUST who is Raul Lambino and why is he dancing the Cha-Cha?

Lambino is the spokesman of Sigaw ng Bayan, which he describes as a coalition of more than 300 people's organizations nationwide that are supporting the people's initiative for Charter change.

Friends like Dr. Jose Abueva, former University of the Philippines president and chair of the Consultative Commission (ConCom), can "only speak glowingly" about Lambino, while foes like former senator and opposition vice-presidential candidate, Loren Legarda, would rather keep their opinions to themselves.

Civil society leader Marietta Goco, who admonishes Lambino for dancing to President Arroyo's tune, still considers him a "charming" man.

But this lawyer has a more precise description of himself: a teacher first, and only accidentally a political creature.

Passion and profession

Teaching, he says, is his passion even if he is a lawyer by profession. As Sigaw spokesperson, Lambino says he is able to do what he loves most while promoting constitutional reforms that he believes will save this country from ruin.

He considers the thousands who have attended his Cha-Cha lectures as his students. Some of them were annoyingly persistent (*"makukulit"*), he laughs, recalling instances when people would engage him in spirited debate about the constitutional change that, among many things, would pave the way for a parliamentary form of government.

"But I always tell them they didn't have to believe everything I say. It was still up to them to make the choice," he adds.

Should his Cha-cha campaign fail, Lambino says he still considers it an accomplishment to be able to reach out and interact with as many Filipinos as his group could summon.'

Lambino is one of the 49 ConCom members selected by Malacanang last year. It was a surprising appointment, he admits, because he has been identified with the group of the late actor Fernando Poe, Jr. (FPJ), Arroyo's toughest challenger in the 2004 presidential elections.

Lambino is one of the lawyers of FPJ's Koalisyon ng Nagkakaisang Pilipino (KNP) during the canvassing of votes in Congress. But he severed his ties with the opposition after he maintained that there was no massive cheating in the recent elections.

Lambino recalls that he received a call from Speaker Jose de Venecia in July last year, inviting him to join the government's campaign for Charter change. The lawyer answered that he could cite what he believes were the defects of the 1987 Constitution if that was what De Venecia needed. But the Speaker wanted more than that. "I was told that they were going to form a consultative committee," Lambino recalls. Soon, the Malacanang appointment was announced.

The De Venecia factor

Those who know Lambino believe that it was the De Venecia factor that got the 48-year-old lawyer to the ConCom.

Both men hail from Pangasinan and in 1986, Lambino began working for De Venecia as a political officer at the House of Representatives.

Lambino also became a member of De Venecia's Lakas party and actively campaigned for the latter in the 1998 presidential elections.

But his support for Cha-Cha, claims Lambino, has little to do with JDV, but stems more from his desire for "a better future for the country."

That seems debatable, retort his friends including Goco, a fellow Pangasinense. Goco says she has warned Lambino about his present affiliations, telling him that a Charter change under Arroyo would only lead the country back to the Marcos era.

While she thinks Lambino is "misguided," Goco however admits that she does not doubt his sincerity and commitment to his present advocacy.

"I just hope when the time comes I won't have to tell him, 'I told you so,'" she adds.

Goco, who ran but lost as KNP's official gubernatorial candidate in Pangasinan, says she has also forgiven Lambino for bailing out on her during the counting of votes.

"He simply disappeared without any explanation. His cellphone was turned off. I couldn't reach him. Finally, after the counting, I managed to talk to him. He said he had to go to Baguio. I really reprimanded him," recalls Goco.

Dependable worker

Abueva, for his part, was impressed with Lambino's work at the ConCom. He is dependable, says this respected educator and political scientist.

"I regard him as one of the most valuable players in the ConCom. He's a productive and hardworking member," says Abueva, himself an advocate of constitutional reform.

The standoff with the Marines a week after the Feb. 15 launch of Sigaw ng Bayan was, for Lambino, an incident that stressed the need for Charter change.

A frustrated soldier, this lawyer says he fears that if the Constitution was not amended, military adventurists would keep invoking the provision that says the Armed Forces are the protector of the people and the state, and might use that as a justification for a power grab.

"Anyone who's going to be president can always be held hostage by the military or the civil society in cahoots with the military, or similar groups. The President will always be tied down to or forced to kowtow to these different power brokers."

Mixed reviews

Despite the mixed reviews on Cha-cha, Lambino remains unfazed. This is the same guy who's had to muster various challenges in life to be where he is now. He had to wait four years before going to college because his parents could not afford to send him and his three siblings to school at the same time.

He describes himself as a *"probinsyanong abugado,"* having graduated from the University of Pangasinan. But he's done well, he adds, thanks to hard work, which is exactly what the country needs right now.

"We have a very beautiful country but we can't just wait for God to give us everything. We have to work for it. The people just have to make a choice," says Lambino, who is apparently referring to his advocacy of the moment..

Lambino lives a happy and fulfilled life with his wife, Marilyn, and their three children, Mark Ronald, 23; Mary Rhauline, 21; and Rhacquel Maryllaine, 16. ◘

Sinubpoenang Pag-ibig

Law school pa lang,
Type na kita
Ngunit di mo ako
Pinapansin

Pumasa sa bar,
Naglakas-loob
Kinausap ka—
Hindi pa rin

Walang napala,
Sa pag-aabogado
Ko binuhos
Sipag at tiyaga

Sa wakas,
Judge na ako
Eto ang subpoena
Date tayo

Dimpy Jazmines

The **Sunday Inquirer Magazine** accepts contributions for our regular poetry section. Interested contributors should send a printed copy of the poem (which may be in English or Filipino) together with a self-addressed stamped envelope to Ruel S. De Vera, poetry editor, Sunday Inquirer Magazine, Chino Roces (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Mascardo and Yague Streets, Makati City 1263, or e-mail to <poetry_sim@inquirer.com.ph>

First Person

by Fr. Ruben J. Villote

Letters from a journey

> *"Therefore I will boast all the more about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me. That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in my weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong."*
>
> 2 Cor 12:9

HE CENTER For Migrant Youth (CMY) remembers Jaime L. Cardinal Sin this 28th of June.

I have on my desk a pile of letters. They represent the breathless exchange of correspondence between Jaime L. Cardinal Sin, Archbishop of Manila, and this writer from July 8, 1982 to February 4, 1983. This period witnessed my own "difficult transit" from two decades of parish work into a new and untested ministry for migrant youth in the Archdiocese of Manila.

My feelings of uncertainty on whether or not I should go into such a risky and lonely ministry were expressed in almost all my letters to the cardinal from July 1982 to about Christmas time of the same year. Like a migrant, I felt so insecure and afraid to step out of my comfort zone of parish work into a strange and unfamiliar ministry.

Statement of faith

"I release you for full-time work on the project," the cardinal wrote (July 13, 1982). "I therefore give you my blessing to start work on it immediately." I took that statement both as a command and a challenge from my bishop, and I imagined I was Don Quixote about to face his windmills. Still, not quite sure where and how to start, I felt naively assured when I wrote the cardinal on July 22, 1982: "People will respond in faith and miracles will happen. This is my statement of faith. I hope it is also yours, Your Eminence."

I felt relieved just being able to tell someone about my crazy dream, little knowing that the cardinal himself shared at least part of my craziness. "I share your confidence," the cardinal wrote back (August 1982), "that people will respond in faith to the proposed ministry, and that logistics will be produced somehow. God bless you as you embark on this new endeavor." In the same letter, the cardinal said that he was sure "the ministry for migrant youth can achieve the most fruitful and meaningful results possible."

When I finally moved out of my parish sometime in August 1982, I felt rootless. I had to pack my things at night to avoid my parishioners, who wanted to accompany me to my destination. But I had nowhere to go!

Minister to migrants

Father (now Monsignor) Vic Bauson allowed me to take up temporary residence in a backroom at the old Students' Catholic Action (SCA) building on Leon Guinto Street, Malate, Manila. In a few months, however, that building would be demolished and SCA would transfer to Legarda. "When that time comes," I said to myself, "I have to move out, and move on." I literally had to be a migrant myself before ministering to migrants.

I wrote the cardinal (August 12, 1982): "Of course, you will understand that no matter how excited and delighted I am about my new work, I feel a little insecure since this new assignment has no stable community base to support me. But I believe I shall 'pass over' this culture shock in due time, Your Eminence."

The cardinal wrote back the next day (August 13, 1982): "Your letter of August 12 has brought me great satisfaction. Things are becoming clear. There will be no problem when it comes to board and lodging. The archdiocese will take care of that... God be praised for what you are. It will not be long when you will be adjusted to the new assignment..."

October 7, 1982 was the formal inauguration date of the Center for Migrant Youth, which was occupying a temporary room at the SCA Building in Sta. Ana. From Aklan, the Cardinal sent a message to the visitors who attended the event: "I am happy that the Youth Ministry has been established through the initiative and leadership of Father Ben... I am with you in spirit with my prayers that your celebration will bring understanding, love and concern for one another..."

Unfinished journey

When the center finally transferred to Quezon City, our exchange of letters sounded more relaxed. I wrote the cardinal February 4, 1983: "We invite you to drop by if you have time..." The cardinal surprised us with a visit one afternoon and spent some time with the migrant and street youth at the center.

Reading through the letters again, I remember with gratefulness the cardinal's continuing presence in our journey of faith through the years. The journey, after 24 years, is not finished yet.

Aside from migrant youth, the CMY is now ministering to released first-offenders and mentally impaired outpatients under 20, who are not yet accepted by their kin. It has opened a halfway house for newly employed former rural migrants and street youth to help them adjust to their new life.

The Center for Migrant Youth has transferred to 15 Goldman Street, East Fairview Village, Quezon City. The first two "strangers from the road," Bong Garces, a rural migrant from Davao and Butch Nerja, a street youth from the Ermita red light district, are now both married and with children of their own. They remember with gratefulness their beloved Cardinal Sin who gave them their first home in the city 24 years ago.

With T.S. Eliot, the cardinal sings with them:

"We shall not cease our journeying,

And the end of our journey

Will be to arrive where we started

And know the place for the first time."

My correspondence with the late Jaime Cardinal Sin from July 1982 to February 1983 witnessed my own difficult transit from two decades of parish work into a new and untested ministry for migrant youth in the Archdiocese of Manila

Thanks be to God for your gift of service...
JAIME L. CARDINAL SIN, D.D.
(1928-2005)

PDI PHOTO

Last glimpse: At the Cardinal's wake last year

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER

TV GUIDE

Sunday • [illegible]

THEY WILL BE THE JUDGES. YOU WILL BE THE JURY.
Philippine Idol
ABANGAN SA JULY 29
ABC
Iba Tayo!

ClickTheCity.com

Channel	2:30PM	3:00PM	3:30PM	4:00PM	4:30PM	5:00PM	5:30PM	6:00PM	6:30PM	7:00PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:30PM	9:00PM	9:30PM	10:00PM	10:30PM	11:00PM	11:30PM
ABC 5		Ringside TV		PBA										Shall We Dance?			Sugarfree		Slapshock
ABS-CBN 2	Your Song	SCQ Kids			The Buzz	E Buzz			Goin' Bulilit		Rated K		TV Patrol World	Sharon	U Can Dance	Trip Na Trip			
AXN		Double Team					Samsung Sports World	WRC 2006 Mid Season Review		The Ultimate Fighter		The Ultimate Fighter		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation (Season 6)		CSI: NY (Season 2)		CSI: Miami (Season II)	
Cartoon Network	Powerpuff Girls	Foster's Home For Imaginary Friends	Tom & Jerry Show	Pet Alien/Planet Sketch/Camp Lazlo/Grim Adventures Of Billy & Mandy		Grim Adventures Of Billy & Mandy/Cow & Chicken/Pet Alien/Camp Lazlo		The Simpsons		Megas XLR	Courage The Cowardly Dog		The Grim Adventures Of Billy & Mandy	The Simpsons		Power Rangers Dino Thunder	Gundam Seed		[illegible]
Cinema One				Dahil May Isang Ikaw				My First Romance				[illegible] Kamao				D' Anothers			
Cinemax				Dave				Sukob (5:55 PM)			Nowhere To Run			Far And Away				Innocent Blood (11:15PM)	
CNN	Quest	World News	Art Of Life	World News	World Sport	Larry King Live		World News	World Sport	World News	Global Challenges	World News	World Sport	Talk Asia	Art Of Life	World News	The Daily Shw Jon Stewart	Late Edition Live	
Crime/Suspense		I, Detective	Crime Scene Academy	Law & Order		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		What Should You Do?		Cold Case		Law & Order: Criminal Intent		Surface		Dominick Dunne's Power, Privilege & Justice	
Discovery Channel		How Do They Do It		American Chopper		Building The Biggest		Mythbusters		Hour Asia		Cathay Pacific Signature Series		Into The Lion's Den				Power Zone	
Disney Channel	Lizzie Mcguire	Totally Spies-Double Episode/ The Suite Life Of Zack And Cody	Phil Of The Future	Brandy & Mr. Whiskers	Lilo & Stitch	Martin Mystery	Buzz on Maggie	Lilo & Stitch/Kim Possible/The Suite Life Of Zack & Cody			Wonderful World Of Disney			Mr. Bean	America's Funniest Home Video	Kim Possible	Martin Mystery	Wonderful World Of Disney	
ESPN		15th Sultan Azlan Shah Cup				15th Sultan Azlan Shah Cup					Sportscenter Germany	Germany Tonight							
ETC		Saturday Night Live		Joan Of Arcadia 2		American Dreams 3		One Tree Hill 3		America's Next Top Model 4		Queer Eye For Straight Guy		Project Runway		Nip/ Tuck 3		TBD	Insider Weekend
ETC 2nd Avenue		Blowout 2		Today Show - 1 Hour Version		Dateline		Cold Turkey		NBC Nightly News	WSJR	The Biggest Loser		The Doctor		West Wing		NBC Nightly News	Hollywood One On One
EWTN	Defending Life	Chaplet Of Mercy/ Angelus	The Donut Man	Adventures In Odyssey	Rosary With Mother Angelica	Octavia Dies	Rome Reports	EWTN Global Showcase		Onward Pilgrims	Images of Mary	Sunday Mass Live			The World Over Encore		Life Is Worth Living	The Abundant Life	
Fox News	Fox News Watch	Fox Report Saturday		Heartland With John Kasich		Big Story Weekend Edition		Beltway Boys	Fox News Watch	Fox & Friends Sunday						Fox News Live			
GMA 7	Gigstars	Love To Love		S-Files				Mahiwagang Baul		Kakabaka-boo		Mel & Joey		All Star K		Daddy Di Do Du		Sunday Night Box Office	
Hallmark Channel			Red Sneakers (3:25 PM)	Red Sneakers ([illegible])		The Flamingo Rising (5:15PM)				Just Cause		Child Of Our Time (7:55 PM)		The Locket			[illegible] (10:15PM)		
HBO				Harry Potter And The Prisoner Of Azkaban					Beethoven's 2nd			The Big Prowler	Daylight				The American President (10:25PM)		
Hero TV	Machine Robo-Rescue	Dear Boys	GPX Cyber Formula	Baki The Grappler	Zenki	Super Yoyo	Ragnarok	Musumet	The Slayers	Baron One	Babel II	Mars The Terminator	Hero TV Theatrix	Dragons	Fire & Ice	Machine Robo-Rescue	Dear Boys	Zenki	Baki The Grappler
IBC 13		Ano Bang Hanap Mo?		Bakbakan Sa [illegible]		Home Shopping Network		06 Hitachi Asian Women's Club Volleyball C'ship				Pinoy Action Hits				Ito Ang Katarungan	EL SHADDAI		
JackTV	Everybody Hate Chris	Arrested Development	Always Sunny In Philadelphia	Family Guy	Jack Yard	Afterburn		Smackdown				Jack In The Box				Dr. Katz	Weekends W/ D.L.	Comedy Central Presents	Premium Blend
Lifestyle Network		Smart Solutions	Country Style	Your Private Island	Fine Living Special		Barefoot Contessa	Everyday Italian	Wolfgang Puck	Food Network Special		E! Entertainment Special		Final Cut				Fashion Trance	
MTV Philippines	Ultrasound Slipknot	[illegible]	MTV News	Get Hitch'd	Homecoming	Laguna Beach		Pimp My Ride		Punk'D		06 Movie Award Pre-Show	2006 MTV Movie Awards				MTV Hits	MTV Screen	Stevens, Slapshock
MYX		Pinoy MYX Countdown				Take 5	MYX Bandarito	MYX News	Star MYX	OPM MYX	Pop MYX	MYX Presents			MYX Hit Chart			MYX Backtrax	MYXLOG
National Geographic	Terminal Velocity	Catastrophe: San Francisco Earthquake		Expeditions Powered by Duracell	Rough Trades	[illegible]		Catastrophe: The Super Twisters		Expeditions Powered by Duracell	Rough Trades	Asian Mega Structures: Airport		Best of the Week: Crop Circles		Nat Geo Investigates: Air Crash Investigation		[illegible]	
NBN		Tinig ng Bayan ([illegible])						Tinig ng Bayan (Live)		Congress In Action		The Working President	[illegible] News Network	The Sports List		Pilipinas Ngayon Na		[illegible]	
Nickelodeon	Drake & Josh	Zoey 101	Ned's Declassified School Survival Guide	The Fairly Odd Parents/[illegible]	Catscratch	Avatar: Legend Of Aang	Danny Phantom	Trollz	SpongeBob SquarePants	All That Just For Kicks - Now Show	Zoey 101	Ned's Declassified School Survival Guide	Dark Oracle	Girls In Love	The Amanda Show	The Brothers Garcia	The Fairly Odd Parents	My Dad The Rock Star	
PBO			Laging Naroon Ka				[illegible]				I Love You 3x A Day				Ogo At 15				[illegible]
Qtv		Lois And Clark		Kaleido Star		Bongga Ka Star		Ang Pinaka...		Pop Star Kids		[illegible]		Sunday Super Sine				Groupee TV	
RPN 9		Golf Power	Fistorama		Global Window	WWE Smackdown		JAG		Navy NCIS		Without A Trace		NBA On RPN					The Working President
SBN 21				Buhay Pinoy		Shepards Voice		New Life				Oras Ng Himala		Oras ng Katotohanan		Gabay At Aksyon			
Solar Sports						GWS 25-2000	Swatch FIVB [illegible] Modena, Italy		NBA Jam	Basketball: New York Liberty vs Minnesota Lynx				[illegible]					
Sports Plus				FIFA World Cup [illegible] vs. France						Motoring Today		Million Peso [illegible] Champ				Running Classic Highlights		This Is The PGA Tour	
Star Movies	Soul Plane			[illegible]			Bridget Jones's Diary ([illegible])				Twisted (7:20PM)			Boogeyman			Spooks III		
Star World				North Shore		Business Week Asia	Travel Asia	The Apprentice		The Simpsons		Oprah Prime Time		[illegible]				[illegible]	Oprah Prime Time
Studio 23				PBL Unity Cup Game 2		Exposed					Y Speak Live		US Girls	Desperate Housewives		[illegible] (10:15PM)	Tru Calling (10:45PM)		Angel

TV SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.

Angelica

...from page 1

PDI FILE

Full circle: Angelica has moved on to heavier roles such as the lead in "*Santa Santita*" (right)

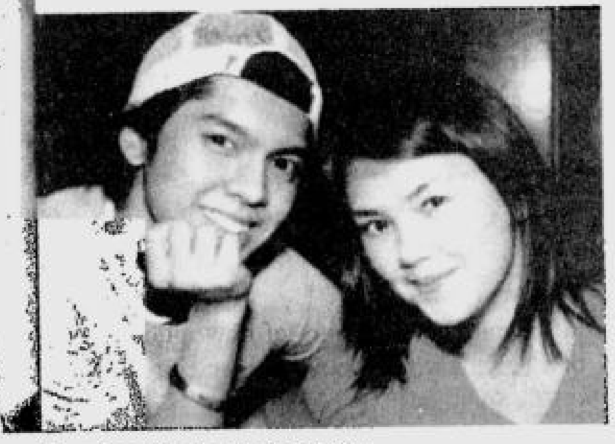
ABS-CBN PUBLISHING

"*Separada*" was her first film

PDI FILE

MAXIM
JULY 2006
She's the ONE!
Angelica Panganiban guarantees we'll never forget our first
EXTREME THREAT to National Security!
How Shabu Really Enters the Philippines
TIME TO STRIP!
Hold Your Own Sensuality Workshop
Casa, Image, Freddie Roach, Randy Couture & the 10 Laziest PBA Players Ever
Red-Hot Movies of 2006!
Meet Miss Maxim!

All grown up: Angelica gets daring on this Maxim cover photo by Toto Labrador



Sweethearts on and off screen: Carlo Aquino and Angelica

The only time she wished her father was around, Angelica says, was two years ago, when she celebrated her debut. "He could have been my first dance," she says wistfully. Her *Lolo* Alfredo graciously did the honor.

Amazingly, no one has yet come forward to claim paternity of this young actress who starred in such movies as "Antipolo Massacre," her first film, "*Separada*" (where she won a Famas for Best Child Actress), and "*Santa Santita*."

Piecemeal truth

All she knows about him, says Angelica, is that her parents had separated when she was two. He was crazy (*baliw*), her mother had told her.

It was no big deal, she recalls. In grade school, Angelica remembers having a group of friends called "*barkadahang walang ama*" (friends without fathers). "All my friends' parents were separated. Their stories were worse than mine. One's father was said to have been ran over by a train. Another said her mother chopped off her father's head, and so on."

Only recently did her mother started telling her the truth, but piecemeal. "My parents separated, he's now settled in Guam and has another family." That's all she knows and that's how far she'll go answering any more queries about her family.

Aida Araojo of the private, non-sectarian St. Vincent School at West Avenue, Quezon City gave SIM access to the girl's records. Angelica was born on November 4, 1986 in Caloocan City. Listed as her parents are Alfredo Panganiban, a taxi operator in Guam, and Melania Panganiban, a housewife. Angelica finished elementary school in 1999 at St. Vincent in Teacher's Village, Quezon City, and her high school in 2003 at St. Vincent, West Avenue. The pretty lass was the Junior-Senior Prom Princess in 2002 and Miss Junior and Senior Prom in 2003.

She was a good student, recalls Luzviminda Pastores, Angelica's teacher in Physical Education, Health Education, and Music, in third and fourth year. "She was very attentive, did her lessons, and participated actively in class discussions. She even sang once, complete with action, even when her voice was not that good. She was very responsible. She was usually absent twice a week, but when she came to class, she knew her lessons. Because she was balancing her show biz and class schedules, she was only an average student."

Marite Modino, her third- and fourth-year Social Studies teacher, says. "She was very low-profile. *Hindi mayabang*. She came to class with her hair tied at the back, with no makeup on. *Hindi maarte*. (She wasn't fussy). One time during their bivouac, I made her roll over the mud and she did."

Angelica had plenty of suitors, even having an MU (mutual understanding) with another student during her senior year, but she didn't make any trouble, her teachers recall. She also didn't talk about her father. Modino says, "She says she never knew who her father was."

Surrogate parent

Apparently, the girl is an exception to the usual profile of children who come from dysfunctional families. Says Dr. Laurie Ramiro, who teaches Behavioral Science and Psychology in UP, Manila: "In general, those coming from broken families find it hard to adjust to their own family life because of lack of a model. But there are exceptions. If there is a powerful male figure in the family, say, Angelica's grandfather, the void can be filled up. The big factor is the surrogate parent. What's important is not the (biological) parent per se, but the caretaker of the child."

But being fatherless can have a negative impact, continues Ramiro. One manifestation of this, she says, is "the preference for older men as intimate partners. It's like having a proxy (for the father)." In most cases, the affected child would have difficulty choosing a partner and would have a hard time maintaining a relationship. "There is always that fear that the husband would leave her too."

So far, Angelica seems to have a "normal psychosexual development." Her on and off sweetheart for the past five years, Carlo Aquino, is only a year older than her. He's 20, she's 19. Says Ramiro, "Naturally, Angelica would expect to feel love, affection, and emotional security from Carlo."

"Carlo is the man that Angelica will spend the rest of her life with," confidently declares Angelica's classmate and friend Kevin Samson. "Their relationship is so strong that it can survive any storm." That includes a painful split from Carlo two years back which had tongues wagging that when Angelica left for the US, her friend and showbiz colleague Camille Prats and Carlo had gotten romantic. Camille, some reports go, is now making peace with Angelica with her frequent phone calls.

"I like that," says this star of the defunct TV shows, "*Ang TV*" and "Vietnam Rose." "We will recover from that situation. We'll just take it slowly." Carlo has been forgiven and is back in her arms.

Emotionally frail

Angelica says that she's drawn to Carlo's expressive eyes and unpredictable nature. "I don't know what's going on inside his mind. He's deep." Emotionally, she's attracted to him because he is "caring."

Angelica, admittedly, is emotionally frail. She recalls how inconsolable she was when her relatives who used to live with her and her mother in a Commonwealth compound, all left for a better life in the United States. She was only 11, and felt deserted by family.

"I felt like I lost my world and that my life had no meaning and purpose. It was like somebody died in the family," she recalls. "I cried every night." She would later tell herself: "I will save a lot of money and get them all back here. I will give them jobs, a house."

She was just dreaming then, Angelica says, but that dream may yet come true. Her uncle and his family, she reveals, will be coming home for good in the next four or five years. "They gave up on life in the US. I promised to give them work here and send their children to school."

Angelica says she enjoys the various roles she has played in her show biz career: a ghost in "White Lady," a superhero in "Ronin," and a bombshell on the cover of Maxim Philippines' maiden issue. But the bigger satisfaction, she says, comes from being "able to help my family," a family that Angelica Panganiban—a woman with a mysterious past—wants to protect against the world. Q

Stardom came early for Angelica

PDI FILE

Little Lives

by Marian C. Martin

From dog-breeding to restoring classical films to painting, this widow lives a full & fulfilling life

THE PETITE 60-ish woman strides purposefully across her garden in New Manila, claps her hands and calls out, "Come on, girls!" Immediately, the air is filled with the baying, barking and yelping of 11 dogs as they rush out in excitement at their mistress's return. Clambering joyfully all over her, the dogs mark her khaki pants with their paw prints, lick her face, and roll over for her to scratch their exposed bellies.

These dogs are the "girls" of Rocio de Vega, one of the few licensed all-breed international conformation dog show judges in the Philippines and in Asia. She has just returned from another judging assignment in India

De Vega's grandfather was the first to import German shepherd dogs from Germany in the 1930s. Raised by a dog-loving family, De Vega herself became a breeder of this breed, as well as shi tzuhs, dachshunds, American cocker spaniels, toy poodles and whippets. She was responsible for bringing into the country the first shih tzus and West Highland white terriers from Australia in 1973, although she claims that the toy poodle was her first love as a breeder.

"I was born with dogs. It was a cocker spaniel who taught me how to walk. I have pictures of myself riding a cocker spaniel," she recounts.

Born with dogs

Because there are no schools for dog judging, De Vega and other members of the Philippine Canine Club (PCCI) learned how to judge dogs from official reference books and from other judges whom they invited to their shows. The PCCI is recognized by the Asia Kennel Union and affiliated with the Brussels-based Federation Internationale Cynologique.

Despite the controversy among dog lovers several years ago about the Philippines being a dog eating country, her standing as a judge remains, says De Vega who has been judging dog shows since 1973. "All of us in the clubs have pedigreed dogs that cost us so much I don't think any of our members would ever eat dogs," she says. "When I went to Australia and wanted to import dogs, some people were afraid of sending their dogs here for that reason. But then we invited so many Australians to judge for us and these are the people who spoke in our defense."

The expense of owning, breeding and caring for dogs offers a contrast to the endemic poverty of the country, De Vega acknowledges, but she explains: "Even Christ said the poor will always be with us. But it is people's need for companionship that these dogs fulfill so we must feed them." She points out that dog lovers do not necessarily deprive people of food because most imported dog food is composed of meat that are less available for human consumption.

Dog judges apparently develop a unique, inexplicable rapport with even the most ferocious of dogs. notes De Vega. "I have never been bitten by a dog. Rottweilers are a particularly fierce breed but when I approach them they just look at me and don't bite me. I can open their mouths. We have to look inside their mouths to check their teeth. We judges can communicate with them on another level. It's like you can talk to them." She demonstrates how she approaches dogs at contests with open hands to show that she is not a threat to them.

Renaissance woman

Those who know De Vega the dog judge may not be aware of how much of a Renaissance woman she is. She recently took up painting. She has also been a professor of philosophy, psychology and english at the Lyceum of the Philippines and at the University of the East. She served in various government positions, primarily as chair of the Movie and Television Review and Censorship Board (MTRCB), to which she was appointed after the assassination of her husband, Dr. Guillermo C. de Vega, a presidential assistant to President Ferdinand Marcos. Guillermo was killed in the bathroom of Malacanang by a disappointed favor-seeker, who was subsequently convicted and sentenced to life imprisonment.

Of her MTRCB tenure, De Vega recalls, "I tried to give my all to the motion picture business but my ideas were far ahead of the times. I was liberal and it was martial law. The military was so sensitive about anything questioning any repression of martial law."

Coming from the academe, De Vega walked into the job unprepared for the petty in-fighting in the Palace and in the movie industry. She did stand up to the military when they tried to stop her from allowing the public showing of the landmark film "*Sakada*," that dealt with the oppression of sugar plantation workers. She says, "They kept insisting that I withdraw the movie but I stood my ground. My husband had kept me away from the intrigues of government so I didn't know that the person smiling at me is also stabbing me in the back."

De Vega reveals that some people with media connections were unhappy about her MTRCB appointment and mounted a media campaign alleging that she had shares in certain movie companies. After a year, she resigned from the Board but stayed on as technical assistant to the President from 1976 until 1986.

Thought-provoking

The liberal in De Vega seems unperturbed at the storm of controversy that greeted the film, "The Da Vinci Code." She says, "I saw it twice already. It's just fiction but if you read "Holy Blood and Holy Grail," you'd know that the movie is based on a lot of thought-provoking research. Despite all these revolutionary thoughts which are so tangentially opposite Church teachings, I think the Church will remain steadfast. Others might be affected temporarily but after a few years and the controversies are gone, they will regain the faith that has been put in doubt."

Only 35 when her husband, presidential adviser Guillermo de Vega was shot dead in Malacañang, Rocio de Vega never remarried. There are just so many things to do, says this well-respected judge in international dog shows, who is also into numismatics, philately, horticulture, sports, photography, arts, antiques and film-collecting

Her stint in the film industry quickened De Vega's interest and passion in the preservation of classic Filipino films which she collects. She dreams of making old Filipino movies commercially available for future generations and deplores the sad fact that many films, some produced as recently as the 1980s, are gone while others are rapidly deteriorating. She plans to ask private companies to help fund this massive restoration project under the Guillermo de Vega Foundation, of which she is president.

Only 35 when her husband died, De Vega never remarried, preferring to devote herself to raising their three children, Maria Margarita, Eduardo Jose and Jaime Rafael who were then 14, 11 and 8 years old respectively. Rocio recalls now, "My major field was Philosophy. You learn so many techniques to sublimate your desires and interests so that you can channel your energies to other things." That meant plunging headlong into her work as president of the PCCI, a position she held from 1975 until 1982, and her various government jobs.

Amazing interests

De Vega took up painting a few years ago, taking lessons with friends from Fernando Sena, and has now joined the Saturday Group. Her medium is oil pastels and she specializes in portraits of her beloved dogs and cats. She enthuses over the Renaissance painters, especially Michelangelo, Velasquez and Goya and visits the museums on her travels to Europe.

The range of De Vega's other interests is amazing: numismatics, philately, horticulture, sports, photography, arts and antiques collecting. A tour of her home shows the passion with which she throws herself into her interests. Lovely carved cabinet shelves all over the house are crammed with her vast collections of antique dolls, porcelain jars, glass paperweights and glass sculpture.

De Vega describes herself as a "very busy person at this point in my life." She adds, "People are bored because they have no inner life. but even if I am alone I just have to open my encyclopedia and that's it. There's always something to do. My bedroom is full of books. I fill up my hours with things that occupy the mind."

Only 64, De Vega shows no signs of flagging, making preparations for another dog judging stint in Australia and showing that hers is a mind always ready for more interests to fill an already full life.

EDWIN BACASMAS

Born with dogs: De Vega greets her "girls."

Twists of Fate

by Mabel Guia Acosta
photographs by Rodel Rotoni

FATHER & SONS (L-R) Miguel, Carlo, Freddie and Richie Garcia during the interview at Ayala Alabang. Painting at right shows wife Gloria

Retiree finds best job yet—remaking family life

Out of the glare of klieg lights, former ABS-CBN CEO Freddie Garcia is still playing the ratings game. But this time, his family is No. 1

FREDDIE Martinez Garcia has been a salesman all his life, selling himself and his skills effortlessly and sailing to the top of the broadcast industry as president and chief executive officer of the ABS-CBN network for more than a decade.

When he reached the mandatory retirement age of 60 almost three years ago, observers wondered if he could adjust to the sudden lax hours after the hectic pace of a competition-driven career. But Garcia's regimented upbringing has prepared him for almost anything, even the shock of enforced idle hours.

Boying, as Garcia was called, was born to the couple Miguel and Lourdes Garcia in Naic, Cavite, the land of the braves and the bandits. With a chuckle, this former CEO claims he is both. All the Garcia siblings, five boys and four girls grew up in the military tradition as their late father was a dentist in the army.

"My father would wake us up at 6 in the morning," he recalls. On summer vacation, his parents would let go their driver and household help and the children had to do the house chores. "All of us learned to cook, to iron and wash clothes and clean the house," Garcia says proudly.

Lure of the city

Breezing through elementary and high school, Garcia started a career in sales by selling cars in the summer while taking up business administration at the University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezon City. But the lure of city life with its promise of money, freedom, bright lights, and people, particularly girls, deterred his pursuit of further education.

Despite being a college dropout, he applied at ABS-CBN when a slot in radio opened. The year was 1966.

"No less than (top official) Eugenio "Geny" Lopez wanted to interview me. I said, I'm just a salesman, why does the chairman want to interview me? I found out later that when he saw my name, he thought I was *mestizo*. So when he saw me, he said, 'Okay you're 'in.' I ended up in sales."

In 1972, when President Marcos declared martial law, ABS-CBN was closed down. By then Garcia was already married to Zamboanga lass Gloria Dominguez, and father to Miguel and Anna. And here he was, suddenly jobless.

"My bread and butter was basically broadcast and I couldn't wait for the station to go back on air. It had been six months and I had been borrowing money from my father," Garcia recalls. "So I went to Geny to ask his permission to move to channel 7. His only condition was that when they come back on air, we'd work together again."

For 14 years, Garcia was executive vice president of GMA-7. The year 1986 marked his re-entry to the Lopez-owned company and in two years, he turned the dormant network around and drove it to its full potential. The network's founder had no qualms in giving Garcia all the credit.

Trailblazing moves

One of the trailblazing moves of FMG—his famous monicker—was to make sure that everything the station broadcasted, from the news to the cartoons, used Filipino." I think I'm responsible for unifying the country in a way through the use of Filipino in television as it had never been used before. But it also made us less competitive in the world market because of our inability to speak good English."

Broadcast employees remember FMG's management style as strict and hands-on. It was management by objective. He made sure that from concept, pilot and launch, he'd be present. And then he'd let go to take the monitoring seat on a daily basis.

All this control meant power. "I knew I had power but I don't think I overstepped anything," Garcia says. "I was just one of the boys."

The demands of the job required an almost 24/7 watch, and Garcia responded by giving more of himself to his profession. Admittedly he was married to his job. In the process, he neglected his family that now had two more children: Federico Jr. and Carlo.

"To my kids, I was more of a breadwinner than anything else. I thought by just providing them what I did not have, I would have done my role as a parent. I also never saw my wife as I would be home in the wee hours of the morning."

With his finger on the pulse of the masses, Garcia hit on the right formula for TV programming, bringing music, drama and excitement to the Filipino household. He had all the right moves that spelled success.

He muses: "Success means so many things. Taken from a holistic point of view, I was successful in business but not very successful, family-wise. That's why I am trying to do something about it now. I had to fill that void. I don't think it's too late. It is never too late."

Rejuvenated

Two and a half years into retirement, FMG confesses that life is better. He looks rejuvenated with a pressure-free aura.

"It's nice to have no pressure. Now I have more time for my family. I get to be with my children and guide them. We can talk about their dreams and I can help realize them. I have time for my five grandchildren and for my wife."

Retirement has also made FMG realize the many things he had wanted to do but never had a chance to when he was working, including golf, sailing, and traveling with Gloria.

But over and above the 1,001 things in his to-do list, the priority is family. Weekends and holidays are sacred and are spent in the sprawling Garcia home in the hills of Alabang. Bonding is also paramount. "We stay on the dining table after lunch or dinner just talking," says Garcia.

Growing up under the shadow of their larger-than-life father, the Garcia sons are slowly making it in their respective fields. Miguel, the eldest, spent 18 years in California where he stayed in boarding school and lived with relatives.

Says Garcia: "That was a mistake. We realized that when he came home after so many escapades in the States. You don't send your kid abroad thinking he would straighten up on his own. He needed family."

The somewhat parallel circumstances between father and son healed with time and acceptance. While in the United States, Miguel made a name for himself in sales as he serviced radio station and one of the largest cable providers, TCI.

He was also part of the core group that started The Filipino Channel. Back in Manila, his love for the industry lured him back to ABS-CBN where he is currently an account specialist.

Federico Jr., aka Richie, the remaining Garcia bachelor is a director. He finished MassCom at the UP Diliman and took his Masters in Film Making, specializing in directing and cinematography at the London Film School.

He recounts one touching incident between junior and senior. "I came home from London to surprise Dad on his birthday. I told my Mom to lock him in the bathroom. Then when he saw me as he was coming out, the first thing he said was, 'You got kicked out?' Sometimes he can be tactless, I mean, what happened to hi and hello? Finally, I managed to say that I went home just to surprise him on his birthday. We all got a good laugh out of it."

Entrepreneurs all

Carlo, the youngest son, is an entrepreneur who has established a fashionable lingerie business with his wife. Recently, he introduced Team Rush, a messenger service patterned after the bike riding messengers in New York.

"Team Rush operates in the Central Business District of Makati. We have cyclists who are Tour of Luzon participants. They get their exercise while working for us and we pay them for it," says Carlo.

Anna, the only daughter, is married and an entrepreneur in her own right.

On the whole, FMG says "they turned out to be great, they have their own idiosyncrasies, but basically they are good. I never spoiled my children; they know the value of money."

As a family, he adds, "We intend to set up a marketing and production company. I dream of exporting our programs to Southeast Asia, if not the world. We have the talent; I think the most creative people in Asia are the Filipinos. I don't see any reason why they should not surpass all our neighbors given the chance and encouragement. I really won't be out of my industry until the day I die."

Those who wonder if FMG still wields a magic wand to make things happen on television only have to see him weave his magic on what was formerly abandoned turf—his family—to know that the former salesman's sales pitch still works. ◘

Survivors' Tales

by Michelle R. Bayaua

This Pinay English teacher in Korea found herself in the midst of a koreanovela

Lured by the promise of dollars, Kate packed her bags to teach English as a second language in South Korea. To her dismay, she realized that more than her doctorate degree, it was her skin color and mother tongue that decided how much compensation she'd get

BAGUIO CITY—Kate walked through the streets of Daejeon City in South Korea, clutching a bag full of books, recycled cartons and crayons on a bright, spring afternoon in May. These were teaching materials for her six young Korean students.

Like other Filipino professionals, she has been driven overseas by the lack of job opportunities in local shores. Kate taught English as a Second Language (ESL) to young Koreans until she discovered that laws in that country made things difficult for non-native English speakers.

Next to domestic work and nursing, teaching ESL is fast becoming the most in-demand overseas job these days. From Korea, to China, to Indonesia, Thailand, Malaysia, Japan and the Middle East and as far as Europe, foreign school administrators and recruitment agencies are hiring Filipino ESL teachers who are largely females at an astounding rate. Filipinos have historically been tied to the language since its colonial days under the United States more than 50 years ago and are known to speak it fluently.

Elevate stereotypes

But while the employment opportunities as ESL teachers help elevate the stereotype of Filipinos from domestic helpers to that as professionals, it is not without its drawbacks.

A native of Zamboanga, Kate (who'd requested that her last name be omitted in the story), has a degree in civil engineering, a master's degree in public administration and a doctorate degree in educational management. Driven by dreams of making enough to help her family, Kate worked as an engineer for a number of corporations in Manila, and later, a government agency in Baguio. She also taught for five years in two Baguio universities, until the lack of a teaching load forced her to teach ESL four hours a day to Koreans, at the rate of P45 per hour.

Her high evaluation marks from her students impressed her Korean employer and led to her being offered a job in a garments factory in Korea. The details were sketchy at best. The employer had offered a monthly salary of US$1,000, free meals and lodging, and paid for the processing of her papers. Kate got a visiting visa valid only for 59 days, but since her employer had promised to help her get a work visa, she thought it an obstacle that could easily be overcome.

Something wrong

But as soon as she set foot on Korean soil in Seoul City on May 11, 2005, she knew something was wrong. Though she received a warm welcome from her employer at the airport who gave her 20,000 Korean won as pocket money, there were discrepancies in their agreement that she could not ignore. Her employer, for one, immediately requested that she turn her passport and visa over to him, which she only got back on departure.

Instead of staying in Seoul for the garments training as agreed earlier, Kate was taken to Daejeon City, where she was to work for a month as an ESL teacher. Her employer explained that he would get her a working visa immediately but still, she remembers, "I was anxious."

And she had reason to be. Though she was given a fully-furnished apartment at the heart of the city, she was not given sufficient meals nor the salary promised. Her meals came from the freebies that her employer's ex-wife got from her grocery shopping: a small pack of soup, two packs of noodles, one small pack of milk, two eggs and a kilo of rice that lasted her only four days. Up to the third and fourth week, Kate still had not received her salary. The meager 20,000 won was spent on her first week in the city.

Kate later found out that she could not get a working visa because it was illegal for Asians, especially Filipinos, to teach in Korea.

Correct accent

In Jun Kim, administrator of an ESL Academy for Koreans in Baguio City, explains, "Filipinos are not allowed to teach English in Korea because they are not native speakers, such as the Americans and Canadians, who have the correct accent."

He says Filipinos have their own distinctive accent which impede effective ESL teaching. This, despite the fact that Filipinos have an uncanny ability to mimic foreign accents as evidenced by the proliferation of call centers in the Philippines, with Filipinos trained to speak with an American accent.

But because Filipinos and other Asians are not legally allowed to teach ESL in Korea, Kim says the government cannot provide them legal protection.

The obvious difference in compensation between native English speakers and Asians teaching ESL in some countries speaks further of unfair treatment.

Kate points out that although US$1,000 is relatively huge compared to what tutors and teachers would get in the Philippines, it is still only half of the $ 2,000 that a Canadian or an American would receive, on top of free accommodations and a car offered them. She adds that a Canadian or an American with only a high school education can more easily get employed as an ESL teacher in Korea, compared to highly-qualified Filipinos, some of whom have a doctorate degree like her. In fact, other Filipino and Asian teachers actually receive salaries as low as $400; she got $1,000 because of her doctorate degree.

Filipinos who have experienced teaching in China echo the same experience. While Filipinos earn an average of P15,000-P20,000 in China, American and Canadian ESL teachers easily earn quadruple that amount, plus benefits, only because they have the right skin and hair color.

Rampant deception

The discrimination is contrary to CEDAW, the Convention for the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women, also known as the Women's Bill of Rights. CEDAW was signed and ratified by the Philippines in 1981 and should protect Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW) from the reckless and rampant deception by illegal recruiters. As a fellow signatory, the Democratic Republic of the Peoples of Korea is duty-bound to "eliminate discrimination in the field of employment and ensure the same rights—right to work, employment opportunities and same criteria of selection, equal remuneration and treatment and evaluation, social security, health and safety in working conditions" under Article 11 of CEDAW.

Unfortunately, the law has not been properly implemented. And OFWs who have been discriminated against, often wind up disillusioned and unemployed. After a month in Korea, Kate decided to go home in dignity rather than hide from the Korean government like other illegally-recruited Filipinos.

Hers is not altogether a unique experience. With about five million Filipinos unemployed, according to the 2004 records of the National Statistics Office, more Filipinos opt for employment abroad, exposing themselves to the dangers of hostile foreign environments.

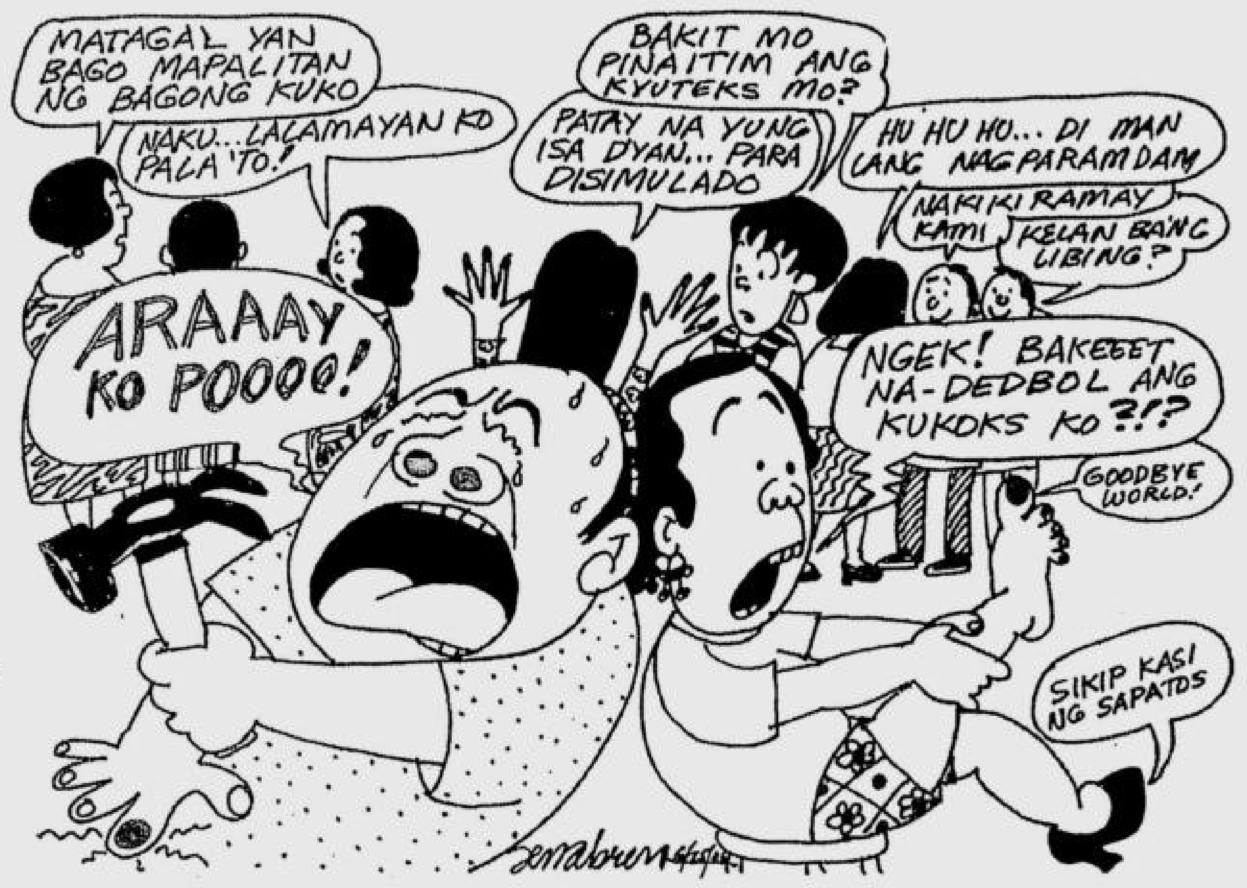
Kate has decided to treat the whole episode as a learning experience, and to move on. She can only hope that others like her would learn from it as well.

Women's Feature Service

Pinoy Ngal

by Jess Abrera

Patay na Kuko


MATAGAL YAN BAGO MAPALITAN NG BAGONG KUKO
NAKU... LALAMAYAN KO PALA 'TO!
BAKIT MO PINAITIM ANG KYUTEKS MO?
PATAY NA YUNG ISA DYAN... PARA DISIMULADO
HU HU HU... DI MAN LANG NAGPARAMDAM
NAKIKIRAMAY KAMI
KELAN BA'NG LIBING?
ARAAAY KO POOOO!
NGEK! BAKEEET NA-DEDBOL ANG KUKOKS KO?!?
GOODBYE WORLD!
SIKIP KASI NG SAPATOS
jenabrera

This Week

Art

Galleria Duemila presents an exhibit of four sculptors—**Duddley Diaz, Carolina Montero, Roberto M. A. Robles and Tony Twigg** until June 27 at Galleria Duemila, 210 Loring St., Pasay City. For details, call 831- 9990.

Psalms in Color, an exhibit of landscape paintings done in acrylic by Dan A. Reventar at the MuseumSpace, Ayala Museum until June 29. For inquiries, call 757-7117 to 21 loc. 31.

Revisions presents Raul Rodriguez's series of small sketchpad-sized works rendered in pastel on paper and several large works done in oil on canvas, until June 30 at Mag:net Gallery Paseo, Paseo Center, Paseo de Roxas corner Sedeño Street, Makati City. For details, call 817-7895.

Structures of Past Life, an exhibit of oil paintings depicting heritage structures, ancestral houses and old churches by Jucar Raquepo at Boston Gallery, 72 Boston cor. Lantana St., Cubao, QC until June 30.

Vice Begins, digital photography where all seeming reality is instantly translated into a virtual one and easily replaced, easily deleted from existence by Jed Esqueta at Mag:net Gallery ABS, The Loop, ABS-CBN Compound, QC, until June 30.

Onstage

Tanghalang Ateneo presents three productions for its 28th Repertory Season dealing with the clash among different discourses and people's awakening to new truths. The season opens on July with a Filipino version of Nobel Prize winner Darion Fo's satire, **An Accidental Death of an Anarchist**. Come November, Tanghalang Ateneo's roster of student actors displays the turmoil of adolescent angst in Han Ong's **Middle Finger**, or *Hinlalato* in Filipino. The season's finale in January 2007 showcases the stage comeback of Laurice Guillen in Tennessee William's **The Glass Menagerie**. For details, call JJ Ignacio at 0919-5911426..

Music

Mag:net Café Performances: June 26-Agaw Agimat / Cherry Cornflakes / The Ronnies. June 27—Whatevuritakes / Mikes Apartment and more... June 28—Jazz Night: 8PM-Ryan Sy, 10PM-Working Stiff. June 29—Gabe Mercado and Silly Peoples' Improv Theater (SPIT) with front act guest ventriloquist Ony Carcamo. June 30—Dirty Kitchen. July 1—Makopa, Wake up ur seatmates, Diana Rising, Milestones, Apologia, TKM. Mag:net Café is located at 335 Katipunan Avenue, Loyola Heights, QC.

Atbp

Mensa Philippines, the local chapter of the international society for intellectuals, is inviting all those interested to become a member to take its upcoming **qualifying test** on July 1, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Private Room, Oakwood Premier, Glorietta 4, Ayala Center, Makati. Scoring within the top 2 percent of the test is the only requirement for joining Mensa. Test takers to bring a valid ID with photo and testing fee of P400 (discounted rate of P150 for undergrad students with valid ID). Contact: 0917-5268641.

AHEAD Professional Network is organizing a **Leadership Strategies for School Managers seminar-workshop**, which will be held on July 7 and 8 at the La Salle Green Hills Lecture Hall in Mandaluyong City. The two-day seminar will cover topics such as school management, supervision, and school leadership. Call Saireen Jardiolin at 426-0036 or 0917-8911187.

SUDOKU

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

			4		5			
		8				6		
	9				7		2	
5		9						7
			6		3			
6						5		8
	3		1				7	
		2				4		
			8		6			

Difficulty Level ★★★★★ 6/25

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Answer to previous puzzle

8	4	6	7	1	3	2	5	9
3	2	9	6	5	4	1	8	7
5	7	1	9	2	8	4	3	6
7	6	4	3	8	5	9	2	1
2	8	3	1	9	7	6	4	5
9	1	5	4	6	2	3	7	8
4	9	2	8	7	6	5	1	3
6	5	7	2	3	1	8	9	4
1	3	8	5	4	9	7	6	2

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 6/24

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2006 Cannes Lions Int'l Advertising Festival coverage

CANNES, FRANCE - THE RED CARPET at the Palais de Festival in Cannes, still warm from the walk of the stars at the recent Cannes Film Festival, is rolled out again for the world's advertising celebrities at the Cannes Lions 53rd International Advertising Festival held 18-24 June 2006.

Leading the Philippine delegation to Cannes is David Guerrero chair and chief creative officer of BBDO Guerrero Ortega who has been selected to be part of the prestigious Cannes Lions jury. Guerrero's agency was the first Philippine agency to bring home the coveted Silver Cannes Lions for the Unicef/Consuelo Foundation "Bunso" TV commercial last year.

Also representing the Philippines in the Cannes 2006 Young Creatives competition are the duo from Leo Burnett Manila. Cecilia Enriquez and John Paul Cuison. Both topped the local 4As Young Creatives competition and were selected to compete at Cannes this year. We have our biggest delegation from the Philippines with 22 professionals from the country's leading advertising and media agencies. They will be privileged to view the best ads in the world, all 24,000 of them, which are competing for the much sought-after Cannes Lions. Vying for the Lions are 170 Philippines entries in the Film, Press, Outdoor, Cyber, Media, Direct, Radio, Promo and the Titanium categories. David Guerrero, our Cannes Radio Lions jury member, expects that "the country will bring more Lions this year".

The weeklong festival held at the glamorous and sunny beachside setting along the Cote D'Azur in Cannes, France will host over

38 seminars led by adworld's advertising icons, 11 workshops, a showcase of the over 24,000 of the best ads from 81 countries, and the awards ceremonies. Almost as significant, is the chance to cavort and share insights with over 10,000 advertising, media, marketing professionals and those from partner industries who are expected to be part the festival.

"This is another record breaking year for entries with strong growth in Media Lions, Cyber Lions and Titanium categories as well as a healthy launch of the new Promo Lions competition. Although the festival is a reflection of what is happening in the industry, this level of growth is also an indication of the importance of competing in Cannes" Terry Savage, executive chair of the festival commented.

The jury presidents for the 2006 Cannes Lions are: David Droga, founder of DrogaFive - Film and Press jury president; David Lubars, chairman and chief creative officer of BBDO North America - Titanium Lions; Guillaume van der Stighelen, creative partner, Duval Guillaume - Radio Lions; Steve Harrison, creative director, Harrison Troughton Wunderman U.K. - Lions Direct; Fernando Vega Olmos of VegaOlmosPonce, Argentina and Unilever Worldwide creative director of Lowe - Outdoor; Lor Gold, executive VP/chief creative officer, Draft Chicago - Promo Lions; Renetta McCann, CEO of Starcom MediaVest Group (SMG) -Media Lions; and Matias Palm-Jensen, creative president of Farfar, Sweden - Cyber Lions.

This year's delegates from the Philippines are: from BBDO Guerrero Ortega, David Guerrero, Raoul Panes and Joel Limchoc; from DDB Philippines, Susan Dimacali; from DM9JaymeSyfu, Merlee Jayme and Alex Syfu; from JWT Manila, Dave Ferrer; from Leo Burnett Manila, Richard Irvine, Cecilia Enriquez and John Paul Cuison; from Lowe Philippines, Noel Bermejo and Milagros Marquez; from Philippine Daily Inquirer, Felipe Olarte and Angel Guerrero; from Proximity Philippines, Antonio Sarmiento III; from Starcom MediaVest Group Philippines, Lizelle Maralag, Evangeline Sauco, Carmina Cruz, Olive Crisostomo, and Napoleon Carrao; and from TBWA\ Santiago Mangada Puno, Vanessa Escobar and Jake Tesoro.

CANNES LIONS 2006
53rd International Advertising Festival
18-24 June

TERRY Savage, executive chair of the Cannes Lions Advertising Festival in front of the Palais de Festival.

FUSE
Foundation for U
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MATH VIDEO COURSES ON DVD

Dr. Lucio Tan (left), vice chair and founder of the Foundation for Upgrading the Standard of Education (Fuse), receives the first batch of eight Math video courses from Ric Argaño (right), COO of production outfit Green Apple Animax Inc produced by Fuse with help from former Senator Tessie Aquino-Oreta, the Department of Education, UP Integrated School and other institutions, the telecourse titled 'Generation Math' is part of the foundation's Continuing Education Via Technology (Constec) project. Joining the turnover are (from left) Fuse executive director Dr. Milagros Ibe (second from left) and Fuse president Dr. Salvador H. Escudero III. Designed to improve teaching skills, the Constec video discs are reproduced by Fuse with funding from Dr. Tan and are distributed for free to various schools nationwide.

'Descending to the Top' stirs youth

UNIVERSITY
MAR 2006

"Luke, there is no try. There is either do or not do"

WITH THESE WORDS OF THE GREAT MASter Yoda to his pupil Luke Skywalker from the movie Star Wars, Silliman University's youngest-ever commencement speaker kept the 2006 graduates of the prestigious school of Dumaguete in rapt attention. True to form, 1998 TOYM Winner, recently chosen by Graphic magazine as Top 24 Leaders, producer of "Jose Rizal" and "Muro-Ami" and current PLDT and Smart executive Menardo "Butch" Jimenez Jr clicked and connected with the Silliman graduates for the next half hour as he delivered his speech "Descending to the Top."

Addressing the country's next generation of achievers is not a first for the young Jimenez who made history in 2003 as the University of the Philippines' youngest commencement speaker. The speech he delivered in his alma mater entitled "What's Better Than?" went far beyond the UP grounds and reached thousands more across the country and around the globe as it was forwarded via e-mail and posted on several blogsites mainly of students, young adults and even business schools.

. It seems that the message from that UP speech still lingers as Ma. Zusabel Digaum, magna cum laude batch 2006 graduate of Silliman shares, "I have read an electronic copy of his speech delivered during the 2003 Graduation Ceremony of UP Diliman. It was indeed a blessing to have graduated three years after—with Mr Jimenez just a few meters away from my seat, and his voice filling us, graduates, with lessons and anecdotes that reaffirms what our country needs today: leaders whose main goal is to serve, professionals whose principles can never be overshadowed by wealth and fame, and individuals whose judgments are established from a deep Christian faith."

With its controversial title and packed with inspiring anecdotes, "Descending to the Top" is now on its way to making the very same e-mail rounds that Jimenez's UP speech did three years ago which reached Filipinos and even foreigners overseas. Calling the young Jimenez as the "perfect catch for our batch," Terrence Callao (BBA Management magna cum laude graduate) said, "Mr Jimenez's speech was a very rich collection of principles which he unselfishly shared in his mission to help us in our quest for success. I was moved by his thoughts on "being the first in mind, execution, descending to the top, and having a heart for the country."

Jimenez built his strategy for success upon the classic marketing book written by Al Ries and Jack Trout, "Positioning", both of whom theorized that to be a leader in the marketplace, one must be the "first in the mind" of the consumer. An amazing testament to the growing popularity of the speech is that even Al Ries himself, who will be coming to Manila to conduct a top-level marketing seminar received a copy of the speech circulating on the e-mail. Ardy Roberto, organizer of the conference on June 23 remarked that he couldn't get over the fact that the speech reached Al Ries and forwarded the same to him, "this is one for the books," said Roberto.

In the speech, Jimenez focused on two main attributes that everyone should develop in order to succeed : Discipline and Execution. Citing Lee Kuan Yew's real-life story of how he propelled the small city state of Singapore to be an economic superpower by building on the character of discipline among the Singaporeans.

His prime example for developing the other significant attribute of execution was of basketball legend Michael Jordan whom he called the icon of execution and the "go-to" guy because he "made things happen". And to clinch the message of execution for his young audience, Jimenez quoted the world's most famous dreamer, Walt Disney, "Dreaming, believing and daring without doing is like Dumbo, the elephant, without ears. It just won't fly."

Finally, why "Descending to the Top" as the title of the speech? Because he believed it was better than ascending to the top. The key word as one "descends to the top" is humility. Something every fast-riser must learn to master as he drives to the peak of success. In his own words, Jimenez shares that "the higher one goes, the lower the ego", that is the principle of descending to the top.

However, the message that rang clearly in the minds of the graduates long after Jimenez delivered his speech were his final words. Jimenez implored this next generation of Filipino achievers to never lose heart for the country and a rather unconventional plea, to simply STAY.

Meanwhile, long after the graduation rites in Silliman, Jimenez's speech continues to make waves in the campus and in youth circles. Dr. Maria Cecilia Genove, assistant professor in the college's School of Communication shared this insight, "People were still talking about Jimenez's speech weeks after the Silliman University's commencement exercise. The fact that his speech was imbued with day-to-day situations, interspersed with Christian nuggets of wisdom, made it memorable not only to the graduates, but to parents and guests as well."

To have been chosen by two prestigious universities to be the youngest speaker in its roster to inspire its new batch of graduates is a great achievement for anyone who has been invited to do this honor. Jimenez is and has been a top choice not just because of his track record for success in his field and the many awards he has won (most recently the CEO Award given by the International Association of Business Communicators/IABC plus 3 Gold Quills) but also for his youthful dynamism which is not lost on the young audience.

The chairperson of the Board of Trustees and former Treasurer of the Republic of the Philippines, professor Leonor Briones, had made the recommendation to the board to invite Jimenez after receiving feedback from the graduates that they wished to hear advise from someone with whom they can relate to or identify with. With this feedback, the board veered from the tradition of inviting very senior people. In choosing Jimenez, professor Briones says, "It has always been difficult to balance material success with solid Christian virtues. I myself, strongly recommended Mr Jimenez because he is not only known nationally as very successful in his profession, but he is also known as a practicing Christian."

Being addressed by a young speaker set the graduation ceremonies in Silliman University apart from the rest. Still, the speech itself continues to give inspiration and offer wisdom to countless others outside of the Silliman community. Through the power of the Internet, the speech has been sent via e-mail or, posted on sites and accessed through Jimenez's blog at www.butchgjimenez.blogspot.com.

In his message heard loud and clear beyond the halls of the university, Jimenez had not only mimicked Yoda when he tutored the young Luke "to do or not do." He has done as the young Luke Skywalker had. In simply executing and being the "go-to" guy and by accepting this honor of inspiring the young, he has become the embodiment of hope for this new generation. And with his final message of taking God's hand and walking with Him to reach one's destination, he has left them with the message: if the Force is with them and there will be no destination beyond reach.

Globe, Innove launch Visibility

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During the launch, Globe president and CEO Gerardo C. Ablaza, Jr. announced two innovations, as a testament to Globe and Innove's efforts toward constant improvement. One, Visibility is now 3.5G enabled for lightning speed data transfer rates, even faster connections than 3G. Also, the first 3G sub-notebook - Dopod 900 - was introduced.

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GLOBE president and CEO Gerardo Ablaza, Jr., Golds Pump IT director Mike Leda and Innove CEO Gil Genio.

Community Innovations launches first property in Manila

COMMUNITY INNOVATIONS (AN Ayala Land Company) ushers in suburban living in the city through its first property in Manila, Celadon Residences.

The first suburban townhouse community to rise in Binondo, Celadon Residences is expected to make its own indelible mark in Manila's landscape upon its completion in mid-2008. In fact this early, people have already responded favorably to the residences, "Majority of the units in phase one had already been sold," announces Ana Carpio, sales director of Celadon Residences.

Celadon is a visual attraction as it features seamless layout of lush vegetation and Mediterranean-inspired architecture.

"Celadon Residences is the only masterplanned townhouse community in the heart of Manila," says Jonathan Umali, head of project development of Community Innovations. Built according to Ayala Land's standards of excellence, Celadon Residences speaks of a first-rate community from the grand main entrance to the well-planned interiors of each residential unit.

Celadon Residences integrates two important elements that every homeowner aspires for - function and leisure. Each well-appointed unit in Celadon offers at least three bedrooms with provisions for a home office and a private garden. Peace of mind is also assured as Celadon Residences will be protected by state-of-the-art security systems.

The 4.2-hectare community will only house 202 townhomes to encourage a more intimate interaction and socialization among residents. Houses are grouped together by block, allowing the populace to establish a sense of community and friendship.

Celadon Residences' finely crafted environs also integrate amenities and recreational facilities that allow its residents to wind down without going far. Its strategic location also makes Celadon proximate to business establishments in Binondo, prestigious Chinese schools, hospitals and malls.

Celadon Residences will be maintained by the Ayala Property Management Corp (APMC) a most trusted name in real estate property supervision. APMC ensures that your community is looked after for years to come.

At Celadon Residences, people can finally have the rare chance of enjoying the quietness and seclusion of suburban living in the heart of a bustling city. For inquiries, call Community Innovations at (02)241-4976, e-mail at cilsales@ayalaland.com.ph or visit the website www.communityinnovations.com.ph.

Community Innovations is an Ayala Land company that builds balanced, harmonious communities with a sense of fun, where the living experience enhances the lifestyles and fulfills the aspirations of its customers.

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

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CANNES LIONS 2006
53rd International Advertising Festival
18-24 June
Grand Auditorium

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Foundation for U
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Celadon is a visual attraction as it features seamless layout of lush vegetation and Mediterranean-inspired architecture.

"Celadon Residences is the only masterplanned townhouse community in the heart of Manila," says Jonathan Umali, head of project development of Community Innovations. Built according to Ayala Land's standards of excellence, Celadon Residences speaks of a first-rate community from the grand main entrance to the well-planned interiors of each residential unit.

Celadon Residences integrates two important elements that every homeowner aspires for function and leisure. Each well-appointed unit in Celadon offers at least three bedrooms with provisions for a home office and a private garden. Peace of mind is also assured as Celadon Residences will be protected by state-of-the-art security systems.

The 4.2-hectare community will only house 202 townhomes to encourage a more intimate interaction and socialization among residents. Houses are grouped together by block, allowing the populace to establish a sense of community and friendship.

Celadon Residences' finely crafted environs also integrate amenities and recreational facilities that allow its residents to wind down without going far. Its strategic location also makes Celadon proximate to business establishments in Binondo, prestigious Chinese schools, hospitals and malls.

Celadon Residences will be maintained by the Ayala Property Management Corp (APMC) a most trusted name in real estate property supervision. APMC ensures that your community is looked after for years to come.

At Celadon Residences, people can finally have the rare chance of enjoying the quietness and seclusion of suburban living in the heart of a bustling city. For inquiries, call Community Innovations at (02)241-4976, e-mail at cil-sales@ayalaland.com.ph or visit the website www.communityinnovations.com.ph.

Community Innovations is an Ayala Land company that builds balanced, harmonious communities with a sense of fun, where the living experience enhances the lifestyles and fulfills the aspirations of its customers.

'Descending to the Top' stirs youth

"Luke, there is no try. There is either do or not do"

WITH THESE WORDS OF THE GREAT MASter Yoda to his pupil Luke Skywalker from the movie Star Wars, Silliman University's youngest-ever commencement speaker kept the 2006 graduates of the prestigious school of Dumaguete in rapt attention. True to form, 1998 TOYM Winner, recently chosen by Graphic magazine as Top 24 Leaders, producer of "Jose Rizal" and "Muro-Ami" and current PLDT and Smart executive Menardo "Butch" Jimenez Jr clicked and connected with the Silliman graduates for the next half hour as he delivered his speech "Descending to the Top."

Addressing the country's next generation of achievers is not a first for the young Jimenez who made history in 2003 as the University of the Philippines' youngest commencement speaker. The speech he delivered in his alma mater entitled "What's Better Than?" went far beyond the UP grounds and reached thousands more across the country and around the globe as it was forwarded via e-mail and posted on several blogsites mainly of students, young adults and even business schools.

It seems that the message from that UP speech still lingers as Ma. Zusabel Digaum, magna cum laude batch 2006 graduate of Silliman shares, "I have read an electronic copy of his speech delivered during the 2003 Graduation Ceremony of UP Diliman. It was indeed a blessing to have graduated three years after—with Mr Jimenez just a few meters away from my seat, and his voice filling us, graduates, with lessons and anecdotes that reaffirms what our country needs today: leaders whose main goal is to serve, professionals whose principles can never be overshadowed by wealth and fame, and individuals whose judgments are established from a deep Christian faith."

With its controversial title and packed with inspiring anecdotes, "Descending to the Top" is now on its way to making the very same e-mail rounds that Jimenez's UP speech did three years ago which reached Filipinos and even foreigners overseas. Calling the young Jimenez as the "perfect catch for our batch," Terrence Callao (BBA Management magna cum laude graduate) said, "Mr Jimenez's speech was a very rich collection of principles which he unselfishly shared in his mission to help us in our quest for success. I was moved by his thoughts on "being the first in mind, execution, descending to the top, and having a heart for the country."

Jimenez built his strategy for success upon the classic marketing book written by Al Ries and Jack Trout, "Positioning", both of whom theorized that to be a leader in the marketplace, one must be the "first in the mind" of the consumer. An amazing testament to the growing popularity of the speech is that even Al Ries himself, who will be coming to Manila to conduct a top-level marketing seminar received a copy of the speech circulating on the e-mail. Ardy Roberto, organizer of the conference on June 23 remarked that he couldn't get over the fact that the speech reached Al Ries and forwarded the same to him, "this is one for the books," said Roberto.

In the speech, Jimenez focused on two main attributes that everyone should develop in order to succeed : Discipline and Execution. Citing Lee Kuan Yew's real-life story of how he propelled the small city state of Singapore to be an economic superpower by building on the character of discipline among the Singaporeans.

His prime example for developing the other significant attribute of execution was of basketball legend Michael Jordan whom he called the icon of execution and the "go-to" guy because he "made things happen". And to clinch the message of execution for his young audience, Jimenez quoted the world's most famous dreamer, Walt Disney, "Dreaming, believing and daring without doing is like Dumbo, the elephant, without ears. It just won't fly."

Finally, why "Descending to the Top" as the title of the speech? Because he believed it was better than ascending to the top. The key word as one "descends to the top" is humility. Something every fast-riser must learn to master as he drives to the peak of success. In his own words, Jimenez shares that "the higher one goes, the lower the ego", that is the principle of descending to the top.

However, the message that rang clearly in the minds of the graduates long after Jimenez delivered his speech were his final words. Jimenez implored this next generation of Filipino achievers to never lose heart for the country and a rather unconventional plea, to simply STAY.

Meanwhile, long after the graduation rites in Silliman, Jimenez's speech continues to make waves in the campus and in youth circles. Dr. Maria Cecilia Genove, assistant professor in the college's School of Communication shared this insight, "People were still talking about Jimenez's speech weeks after the Silliman University's commencement exercise. The fact that his speech was imbued with day-to-day situations, interspersed with Christian nuggets of wisdom, made it memorable not only to the graduates, but to parents and guests as well."

To have been chosen by two prestigious universities to be the youngest speaker in its roster to inspire its new batch of graduates is a great achievement for anyone who has been invited to do this honor. Jimenez is and has been a top choice not just because of his track record for success in his field and the many awards he has won (most recently the CEO Award given by the International Association of Business Communicators/IABC plus 3 Gold Quills) but also for his youthful dynamism which is not lost on the young audience.

The chairperson of the Board of Trustees and former Treasurer of the Republic of the Philippines, professor Leonor Briones, had made the recommendation to the board to invite Jimenez after receiving feedback from the graduates that they wished to hear advise from someone with whom they can relate to or identify with. With this feedback, the board veered from the tradition of inviting very senior people. In choosing Jimenez, professor Briones says, "It has always been difficult to balance material success with solid Christian virtues. I myself, strongly recommended Mr Jimenez because he is not only known nationally as very successful in his profession, but he is also known as a practicing Christian."

Being addressed by a young speaker set the graduation ceremonies in Silliman University apart from the rest. Still, the speech itself, continues to give inspiration and offer wisdom to countless others outside of the Silliman community. Through the power of the Internet, the speech has been sent via e-mail or, posted on sites and accessed through Jimenez's blog at www.butchgjimenez.blogspot.com.

In his message heard loud and clear beyond the halls of the university, Jimenez had not only mimicked Yoda when he tutored the young Luke "to do or not do." He has done as the young Luke Skywalker had. In simply executing and being the "go-to" guy and by accepting this honor of inspiring the young, he has become the embodiment of hope for this new generation. And with his final message of taking God's hand and walking with Him to reach one's destination, he has left them with the message: if the Force is with them and there will be no destination beyond reach.

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